

Paris to consult Bonn on weapons

PARIS (R) — France agreed on Friday to consult Bonn about the possible use of tactical nuclear weapons on West German territory in a crisis. The promise came in a joint declaration issued after talks between French President Francois Mitterrand and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on security and defence issues. Mr. Mitterrand stressed that the consultation pledge did not mean France would give West Germany any right of veto over the use of what France describes as "pre-strategic" weapons. "Within the limits imposed by the extreme rapidity of such decisions, the president of the Republic declares himself willing to consult the chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany on the possible use of pre-strategic French weapons on German territory. He recalls that in this question the decision cannot be shared," the declaration said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تأسست من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Arab free zone under study

TUNIS (R) — Arab states are considering a revolutionary idea to set up a free Arab economic zone, the deputy head of the Arab League said Friday. The scheme, under which inter-Arab industrial projects would be managed by the league's economic council rather than individual countries where they are located, was examined at a meeting of the council Friday night, Deputy Secretary-General Abdul Mohsin Zalzala told a press conference. The meeting, which was attended by seven of the 21-member league's economy ministers, discussed the effect of plunging oil prices on Arab producer states and ways of reinforcing Arab cooperation to combat the situation, he said. Mr. Zalzala admitted there were many problems to overcome in setting up a free economic zone, but said the idea was widely accepted in principle at the meeting.

See related story below

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Satellite crashes, but no debris in Australia

SYDNEY (R) — Debris from a runaway Soviet surveillance satellite which crashed to earth on Thursday did not land in Australia, according to first reports reaching the Natural Disasters Organisation. A spokesman said that despite predictions that it would crash in Australia, most of the satellite burnt up on re-entry and any debris would have fallen in the North Atlantic. Emergency services in the country's huge and sparsely populated northern territory were continuing to monitor for debris, the spokesman told Reuters. The West German Interior Ministry earlier said the 10-tonne Cosmos 1714 crashed at a position 134 degrees east, 16 south, which indicated impact in the Northern Territory desert. British scientists said the debris was likely to have ended up in Canada.

Palestinian injured in bomb blast

TEL AVIV (R) — A 25-year-old Palestinian was injured on Thursday in Ramallah, in the occupied West Bank, when a bomb he was making exploded, Israeli military sources said. He was in fair condition at a Ramallah hospital, they said. Palestinian sources identified him as Nazih Abdul Hadid.

Moscow says \$1.5b aid given to Afghan rebels

MOSCOW (R) — The chief of staff of Soviet forces said on Friday the United States and other countries had provided \$1.5 billion in aid to Afghan guerrillas and denied that the war was a useful training ground for Soviet troops. Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev told a news conference that "interference" in Afghan affairs by the Americans and their allies was rising dramatically. "There has been \$1.5 billion of contributions to the counter-revolutionaries by the United States and other countries," he said.

Bonn approves controversial law

BONN (R) — The Bundestag (lower house) on Friday passed a controversial law introducing computer-readable identity documents for West Germans which opposition politicians have charged could lead to increased surveillance of innocent citizens. The legislation provides for new identity cards and passports, which will store personal data that a computer can read, to be introduced next year. Opposition politicians have complained that data from documents belonging to innocent people would be stored in police computers if police set up a dragnet in an area when searching for criminals.

France: No extradition request for Duvalier

PARIS (R) — France said on Friday it had received no request for the extradition of ousted dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier. French officials suggested any such demand by Haiti's new government would face serious legal obstacles.

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King: Urgency of situation, lack of PLO credibility led to Jordan's decision

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that the deteriorating state of affairs in the Palestinian problem and the lack of credibility on the part of the PLO leadership warranted Jordan's decision to terminate political coordination with the PLO.

In an interview published in Saturday's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Siyassah, the King said his disclosure of the details of the circumstances that led to Jordan's decision was aimed at enlightening the people of the dangers that confront them "instead of leaving them to watch from a distance."

In the interview, conducted in Amman by Ahmad Al-Jarallah, chief editor of Al-Siyassah, the King said: "The state of affairs forced (the Jordanian decision) because things had reached a stage where we could not wait any longer. Our credibility had been shaken before the whole world and before our people in the occupied Arab territories and in the Arab World. We had agreed on everything and then they (the PLO) raised the question of self-determination. We had not reached that stage in our dialogue with the world. We meant, through the speech, to inform all the people of the state of affairs. Such disclosure of facts is aimed at putting people in front of the challenges facing them, instead of leaving them watching from a distance in an inaccurate, and perhaps confusing, state of deduction."

Asked if there was anything else he wanted to say, in addition to what was said in his speech, King Hussein said: "Perhaps the only thing I did not mention was our troubles and sufferings. Our troubles with the external world are imposed on us and we got used to them, but our troubles with our brothers were hard to accept. What I said in my speech was a brief description of the circumstances behind our decision to terminate political coordination with the PLO leadership. We had opened all the doors to them, but it seems we were revolving in a vicious circle. We had succeeded in convincing the world of our situation. The stage we achieved on the Palestinian question was beyond our perception. No one in the Arab World could imagine that we had reached such a stage concerning the international peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the Palestinians, through a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

"Of course, our perception of the solution falls within the philosophy of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the King added.

"Negotiations were to start through an international peace conference, and of course the beginning was to be the denunciation of terrorism. Terrorism has always assumed a passive image at the expense of the real resistance inside the occupied Arab territories. We had reached and opened the doors wide for the PLO but their troubles were hard to bear... They started talking about 'self-determination, an issue, which I believe, concerns a sovereign people. They raised things we did not agree on and I wish they said from the beginning that what they wanted was power to rule and not the restoration of land."

"The Arab land is being easily and quickly expropriated at a time when they (the PLO leaders) are talking about issues which cannot be met for the time being," he said.

Al-Siyassah: Your Majesty, is this all what you wanted to say in your speech?

King: Yes, this is all.

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The King: We wanted to reveal facts to know whether we are mistaken or right. We have made every possible effort, and God only knows how much this effort cost us. However, it is a sense of responsibility which we hope others should also realise. We wanted to reach at a solution to this question before it was too late. We observe that every few years we regret losing opportunities because we talk too much and work less. What we meant through this speech was to find a Palestinian party who will realise the facts and looks at his question in a responsible manner."

Al-Siyassah: Have Arab countries given their impression about the subject matter of your speech?

The King: I did not receive any reaction and cannot reach any conclusion. Perhaps they need more time to know what had happened. However, I felt that people wanted to know the facts of the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and the results it had achieved."

Al-Siyassah: Your Majesty, some official bodies and people have the feeling that (PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat is no longer strong and your speech came to stress something people were talking about, particularly the credibility of cooperation. Is this what you meant?

The King: This is what we suffered from and faced. In the past we overlooked many things in the hope that the scope of cooperation be raised to live up to the standard of responsibility. This enabling us to do something. Our goal in dealing with him (Mr. Arafat) was to give priority to the Arab-Israeli conflict in order to liberate the land and people, but things went in the opposite direction until we reached a point where we could not continue to deal with this organisation. Here emerges the question of who represents the Palestinian people. When the party actually representing the Palestinian people emerges we will support him and there is no scope for cooperating with those who

(Continued on page 3)

Peres considering 'new deal' in W. Bank

NEW YORK (R) — The New York Times has reported that Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres was considering "increases in responsibilities" for Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories as a way to promote "self-rule" for Palestinians.

"We shall keep the door to peace open and enable Palestinians to assume responsibilities as they wish to," Peres told the newspaper in an interview in occupied Jerusalem. Any changes would involve about 1.3 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Among the changes Peres discussed were:

The nomination of mayors of three major towns in the West Bank.

Consideration of a proposal to make travel between Jordan and the occupied territories easier by eliminating a rule that prevents youths leaving the West Bank and Gaza from returning within nine months.

The prime minister said he intended to meet Palestinians "from different walks of life and different generations" to discuss their situation.

He also said he would meet any Palestinians except members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Commenting on the Peres proposal, a U.S. State Department spokesman said: "We would welcome a reduction in Israeli control over the day-to-day life of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. As a practical matter, to be successful, any new arrangements in those territories would require the agreement of all the concerned parties."



His Majesty King Hussein receives Ahmad Jarallah, chief editor of the Kuwaiti Al-Siyassah newspaper.

Mubarak tours riot-hit area after replacing key minister

CAIRO (R) — A grim-faced President Hosni Mubarak toured the riot-ravaged Pyramids area, where fresh bursts of shooting on Friday showed that Egypt's worst crisis since he came to power, while contained, was not yet over.

Bursts of machinegun fire cracked before Mr. Mubarak arrived for his first visit to the area since Tuesday night, when more than 2,000 security police conscripts ran wild, smashing and burning hotels, cars and other targets.

Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi, in charge of the security police, stepped down and Mr. Mubarak replaced him with a police general used to administering a tough city.

The shooting near the Pyramids came from behind a police barracks opposite the gutted Jolville Hotel — one of three camps in the area under siege by army troops seeking to crush resistance by attrition.

At two other camps along the road to Alexandria, army snipers were visible. It appeared troops were still rounding up armed fugitive rioters who had fled into the desert. Reuter correspondent Ashraf Fouad saw troops guarding captured rioters.

It was clear that, while the army was in full control, mopping up operations were still sparking tension. Shots heard early in the day in Mansouriyah area near the Pyramids came from nervous private security guards, the government said.

As Mr. Mubarak toured the

area later security was heavy and helicopter gunships hovered. Journalists were officially invited to cover the visit, but the president said nothing.

Muslims flocked to mosques for midday prayers during a six-hour break in the curfew clamped on Cairo on Wednesday.

In several of them, imams (clergy) condemned destruction of property and any attempts to damage the economy. No incidents or anti-government agitation were reported, despite speculation that Islamic fundamentalists instigated the rioting.

The new interior minister is Major-General Zaki Badr, 60, governor of Assiut city on the River Nile. He was appointed to that post in 1981 to crush fundamentalist violence in Assiut after President Anwar Sadat was assassinated.

Mr. Rushdi was considered one of the most powerful ministers in the cabinet of Prime Minister Ali Lutfi, who was present at a Rushdi meeting with Mr. Mubarak and Gen. Badr's inauguration on Friday.

The interior minister's power stems partly from control of the security police force, believed to number more than 300,000 men with sophisticated arms.

Mr. Rushdi has not made any statement since the mutinous conscripts ran amok on Tuesday night on rumours — denied by the government — that their conscription period had been extended by a year.

Cairo residents straggled into the streets on Friday to stroll and buy food during the six-hour break in the curfew.

Cairo Radio said workers were clearing debris and hulks of burned-out cars on the road to the Pyramids.

Officials said the Egyptian army had so far arrested 2,000 of the mutineers, but an Interior Ministry official put the number at 2,500 in a report published by the semi-official daily Al-Ahram.

Among incidents reported on Thursday was the wounding of a police officer in the Pyramids area by army fire and the hunting of conscripts who escaped army cordons to hide in residential and desert areas on the outskirts of the Egyptian capital.

The government has confirmed the storming of the Torah jail, but denied reports that Muslim fundamentalist leaders were among those set free.

Al-Ahram also disclosed that helicopter gunships were called in on Wednesday to flush out conscripts from the fashionable Cairo suburb of Maadi with machinegun fire after mutineers smashed cars and shot people and houses at random.

It reported that two helicopters fired missiles on a large police camp near Cairo's international airport.

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Iraqi planes pound Iranians on Fao

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi warplanes returned to action on Friday on the southern Gulf war front, where ground troops are trying to wipe out an Iranian invasion force.

Baghdad residents saw several squadrons of fighters and fighter-bombers apparently heading south to the Fao Peninsula, scene of Iran's latest offensive now in its third week.

Iraqi jets had been grounded for much of this week by bad weather, which also hampered a three-pronged ground attack on Iranian troops entrenched in and around the disused oil port of Fao, on the Iraqi side of the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

Iraqi jets have flown over 8,000 missions against soldiers in Fao, their supply lines, and troop build-ups east of Basra and on the Iranian side of the Huweizeh marshes to the north since the offensive started on Feb. 9, according to war communiques.

Diplomats in Baghdad say Iran has massed hundreds of thousands of regular army and volunteer troops, ready for a fresh offensive across the marshes.

Iraqi army generals told foreign reporters at advanced positions a few kilometres from Fao earlier this week that the three columns marching on the port at the head of the Gulf were expected to link up soon for a final assault.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein briefed His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday on the latest developments on the warfront and said the Iraqi forces have started eliminating the Iranian aggressors.

In a telephone call, President Hussein informed the King on the steadfastness of the Iraqi warfront and said that the war's balance was in favour of Iraq, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said on Wednesday that Iraqi jets had resumed intensive raids in support of the ground attack on Fao after 48 hours of bad weather. But the weather closed in again and air action was again curtailed.

Iraq's navy and air force have played a major role in harassing Iranian communication lines across the Shatt Al Arab, the southern border between Iraq and Iran when they went to war in September 1980.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said Thursday night Iraq had destroyed about nine Iranian divisions along the Shatt since the new offensive began.

Baghdad Television said President Hussein on Thursday returned to the capital after spending four days with the Seventh Army Corps on the southern front.

Iraq said Thursday its troops were also in action against Iranian forces some 30 kilometres inside Iraqi Kurdistan in a second new offensive, now four days old.

A military communique said the Iraqis had suffered heavy losses in the fighting about 20 kilometres north of the province capital of Sulaymaniyah.

The Liberian-flag supertanker Castor was badly damaged in an Iraqi attack in the Gulf as it worked on Iran's oil export shuttle between Kharg and Sirri Islands, shipping sources in the region reported Friday.

They said the nature and time of the strike on the Norwegian-owned Castor, of 268,728 deadweight tonnes, were not known.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said on Thursday the Iraqi navy attacked three "large naval targets" near Bushehr port and Kharg, Iran's main oil export terminal on Wednesday night. There have been no Iraqi claims since then.

Iraqi aircraft hit the 338,000 dwt Medusa on Wednesday and the Iraqi navy last Sunday attacked the 239,604 dwt Cypriot tanker Polikon.

This was the second time Castor had been attacked. It was hit in the engine room last November 18 while anchored at Kharg.

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Seminar discusses penal code, prison conditions

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on developing and up-dating the prison law in Jordan was held at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman on Thursday and participants issued several recommendations designed to improve the conditions of people serving prison sentences.

A communiqué issued at the conclusion of the seminar called on the authorities to carry out a classification of prisoners on a sound and scientific basis and to introduce measures to prevent crimes being committed inside prisons themselves. The communiqué called for defining behavioural criteria and conduct and guarantees for the protection of inmates against ill-treatment by prison authorities, particularly in the course of applying disciplinary measures.

The communiqué also stressed the need for authorising a judge to supervise and follow up the application of penalties imposed on inmates and it suggested that special social workers be assigned to jails to carry out guidance and advisory work. It also called for providing inmates with education, training and knowledge and for taking steps to rehabilitate convicted people in order to prepare them for resuming a normal life within their own community.

Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed was among the prominent speakers at the seminar.

In his speech, Mr. Kayed emphasised the importance of the seminar which, he said, should look into the motives and the reasons behind the crimes and the environment which breeds crime.

Yarmouk University Acting President Marwan Kamal opened the seminar with a speech underlining the fact that the modern age provides different tools for crime, making it more difficult for society to control and prevent crimes.

The seminar was organised by the Jordanian National Society for Social Defence in order to help shed light on the existing law for prisons in Jordan.

Working papers

A total of five working papers were discussed by the participants and members of the audience who included Minister of Justice Riyadh Al Shakra.

One of the working papers, submitted by Dr. Kamel Al Sa'ad from the University of Jordan, called for the classification of inmates in accordance with their crimes along with the application of modern methods adopted in Europe and the United States.

Another paper, submitted by Dr. Hafez Abu Ghazaleh from the Ministry of Education, called for the introduction of reforms in juvenile delinquency centres and prisons and it suggested improvements in the health, educational and recreational services provided for the inmates. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh, who based his paper on a wide ranging tour of rehabilitation and reform centres in the Kingdom, said that prison authorities should take into consideration that an inmate is a human being whose rights should be respected. She also said that, apart from the social services, each prison and reformatory centre should have a resident physician to provide medical services and treatment. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh also suggested that a vocational training should be provided to help the inmates adapt and to help them obtain training for jobs after their release.

Public Security Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali, who attended the seminar, commented on the suggestions and said that plans have already been laid and will soon be implemented to improve conditions in Jordanian prisons. He also said that schemes which would meet the requests made in both working papers are soon to be carried out.

New prison to open soon
Lt.-Gen. Majali said that a new prison, located at Jweidh south of Amman, would soon be opened and he added that it would replace the present Mahatta prison. In the new jail, he said, inmates will be classified according to age, the type of sentence they are serving and their social and psychological conditions. A special section at Jweidh will be for women inmates who will be supervised by policewomen. Lt.-Gen. Majali continued.

Dr. Mohammad Nijem, from the University of Jordan, submitted a paper on the care and rehabilitation services which should be provided for prisoners after serving their sentences. Dr. Mohammad Nijem from Mu'ta University submitted a working paper on the procedures involved in imposing penalties on inmates and prisoners who do not abide by prison rules and regulations.

Deadline for illegal workers to obtain permits expires today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Non-Jordanian workers found working in the Kingdom without proper work permits will be ordered to leave the country as of Saturday March 1, 1986, according to Dr. Mansour Utom, director of employment at the Ministry of Labour, as quoted by Al Dustour local Arabic daily.

He said that the Labour Ministry will be cooperating with the Ministry of Interior and other concerned parties to carry out the order. All those asked to leave will not be permitted to return to work in Jordan, Dr. Utom said.

The Ministry of Labour had earlier granted all non-Jordanians a period of two months to obtain permits and abide by regulations on the employment of foreign workers in the country. It also fixed March 1, as the deadline for the procedure after which the ministry would start ordering violators to leave the country. The new regulations followed strict directions by the Ministry of Labour to control the labour market and offer priority in employment to Jordanians.

NEWS IN BRIEF

No Jordanians hurt in Cairo riots

AMMAN (Petra) — All Jordanians residing in Egypt are safe and have not been harmed as a result of the Cairo riots, the Foreign Ministry has announced. The ministry's statement said that Jordan's ambassador to Egypt had cabled the ministry informing them that Jordanian nationals living in Cairo are safe.

Princess Alia opens art exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Thursday opened an art exhibition by Euphemia Rizq at the Alia Gallery in Amman.

Envoy to Cuba presents credentials

NEW YORK (J.T.) — Jordanian Ambassador to the United Nations Abdullah Salah has presented his credentials to Cuba's foreign minister as minister of plenipotentiary and non-resident ambassador to Cuba.

Ten injured in car, bus crash

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ten people were injured in a road accident that occurred in Irbid Governorate on Thursday. A report in Al Ra'i local Arabic daily said that the accident, which occurred near Hawara Al Sarh junction, involved a minibus and a small car and added that the injured people were all taken to hospital for treatment.

Former Egyptian minister to give lecture

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Egyptian Minister of Information Mohammad Fa'eq will give a lecture on "The Arab Israeli Conflict and its Impact on the African Arena" at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Fa'eq is giving the lecture upon an invitation from the Arab Thought Forum secretary general in cooperation with the Arab League Social Welfare and Cultural Department.

Hamzeh visits Sahab centre, clinic

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Thursday visited the Sahab Industrial City and inspected the Arab centre for pharmaceutical industries. The minister was briefed by the centre's director general on the various stages of pharmaceutical production and processing. The minister, who was accompanied by Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation Director General Fayez Subeimat, later inspected the city's health centre which is expected to open soon. The health centre will offer medical treatment for all workers in the Sahab Industrial City as well as to neighbouring areas such as Rahem Al Shami, Zuhairah and Naqurah.

Amin inaugurates electricity projects

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin Thursday made a tour of a number of regions in Ajloun district where he inaugurated electricity projects carried out at a cost of JD 91,000. A project at Ibsur village entailed laying 52 high voltage lines along 750 metres in addition to the installation of a transformer, at a total cost of JD 13,000. At Si'a'ar, the governor inaugurated a JD 34,000 electrification project and at Mihna, also in Ajloun district, he inaugurated another project built at a cost of JD 44,000. Mr. Amin was accompanied by several district officials.

Aqaba-Nuweibe' link boosts activities, operations of national shipping line

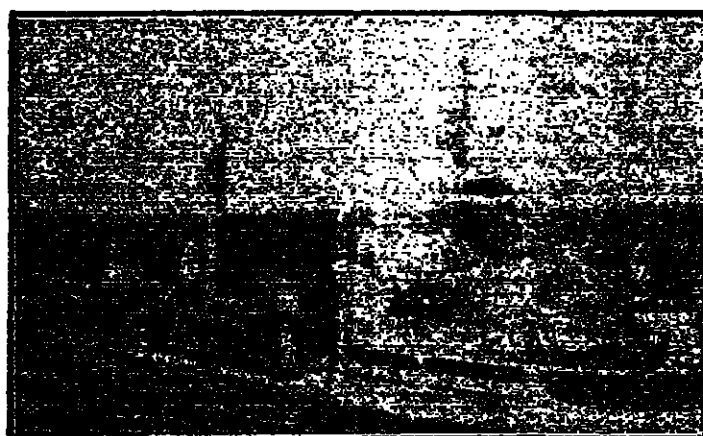
AMMAN (Petra) — The opening of the Aqaba-Nuweibe' sea-land route has boosted the activities of the Jordan National Shipping Lines Company (JNSLC) which was established in 1976, according to the company's general manager, Mr. Yasser Al Tal.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Tal said that despite the current world economic recession, JNSLC was able to make profits in the years 1979 through 1984. The company's profits, which amounted to JD 14,445 in 1979, jumped to JD 499,295 in 1984 and the initial capital of JD 1 million was increased to JD 7 million in 1981 with government approval, Mr. Tal pointed out.

He said that the company, which used to own only two cargo vessels Mu'ta and Bader, benefited from the new route linking Aqaba in Jordan with Nuweibe' in Sinai, and according to latest figures the two vessels alone transported some 55,000 passengers and more than 10,980 vehicles between the two ports since the opening of the route in April 1985 and until the end of 1985.

Though each of the two vessels has a capacity of only 13,700 tonnes, they have been used to bring in goods to Aqaba from ports in Northern Europe, Mr. Tal said.

According to Mr. Tal, the following institutions now hold major shares in the company: The Post Office Savings Fund, the Jordanian Phosphates Mines Company, the Pension Fund, the Jordanian Ports Corporation, the Jordan Fertilisers Industry Company and the Social Security Corporation.



Mu'ta — one of the ships in JNSLC's fleet (file photo)

new manned by 46 Jordanians who have gradually replaced Indian and other foreign seamen. Mr. Tal pointed out.

The four vessels were able to transport 32 per cent of the total goods important imported through Aqaba in 1985, mostly goods in transit for Iraq, Mr. Tal added.

In 1985, he said that the company concluded contracts with the Armed Forces, the Jordan Electricity Authority, the Natural Resources Authority and the Jordan Cement Factories Company to ship their imported goods. Mr. Tal expressed hope that the company's operations would expand during 1986 to serve other sectors and the national economy.



KING RECEIVES SENEGALESE ENVOY: His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received a message from the president of Senegal but no details were given about its contents. The message was conveyed to the King by the president's envoy Mustafa Niang (left) who is also private adviser to the Senegalese president. The audience was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi (right) — Petra photo.

Ministries of Agriculture, Youth join forces to plant trees

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministries of Agriculture and Youth Friday planted 5,000 forest saplings in the "Youth Forest" within the vicinity of Tareq Municipality on the outskirts of Amman.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan said that his ministry has allocated 252 dunams in the vicinity of Tareq Municipality which will be planted with forest trees. He said that this area would be called Youth Forest in recognition of the contribution made by youth to the overall development of the country. Mr. Dakhqan added that the new site will be used as a youth and scout camp and that many plots of land in various parts of the country will be planted with trees as part of Jordan's continuing celebrations of Arbor Day.

The allocation by the Ministry of Agriculture of these plots of land for forest trees comes in implementation of the ministry's national afforestation programme and demonstrates the importance the ministry attaches to trees as part of the national wealth, Mr. Dakhqan continued.

Mr. Dakhqan described youth as a tremendous force which could contribute effectively to the comprehensive socio-economic development of the country. It is from this concept that it has been agreed to involve the youth sector, represented by sports clubs, scouts and girl guides in planting trees, the minister said.

He added that a number of specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture will deliver lectures at schools to point out the importance of trees and to encourage students to plant trees themselves. Youth Minister Hisham Sharara said that it is a national duty to contribute to the national afforestation programme and he pointed out that the land in Jordan has over the ages, been planted with trees.

Mr. Sharara went on to say that his ministry is working on encouraging new generations to become attached to their land and to work for its beautification.

Envoy outlines topics of discussion at EC meeting

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Hague meeting of the European Community (EC) did not issue any recommendations relevant to the Middle East peace process, according to EC delegate in Amman Romano Lantini.

Dr. Lantini said that the EC member states, which recently concluded their meeting in The Netherlands, issued declarations and recommendations on South Africa, the Iran-Iraq war, the Philippines and Lebanon. "The discussions did not touch on a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, was reported to be undertaken some 'quiet diplomacy' to see the community could assist in any way. Political sources have been reported as saying "the EC deemed it preferable to shelve the discussions for the time being."

The Dutch, current holders of the rotating community presidency, were asked to make contacts with parties to the conflict. The move followed a call by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to West European countries requesting them to play a greater role in the region.

The EC's declaration on the Iran-Iraq war said that the community is gravely concerned about the renewed escalation of the conflict, endangering peace and security in the whole region, according to an EC release.

The community called on all parties to the conflict to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring states and not to interfere with third countries' commercial navigation or with civil aviation in the area, the release said. It added that the 12 countries are alarmed by renewed violations of humanitarian law regarding armed conflicts, including the use of chemical weapons. The bloc urged the warring countries to adhere to pertinent U.N. resolutions and mainly the terms of the Resolution 582, adopted unanimously on Feb. 24.

In his interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Lantini said the recent visit to Jordan by Mr. Claude Cheysson, member of the executive committee in charge of north-south relations, explored possibilities for boosting bilateral cooperation in all fields. The visit was meant to identify areas of cooperation in the fields of exchange of scientific know-how and joint ventures to draft the next EC-Jordan protocol due to be signed in October 1986. Spheres of cooperation will cover services, banking and insurance activities, training experience, management and tourism in addition to agriculture, Dr. Lantini said.

He added that the draft protocol will mainly focus on the EC contribution to local medium-size industries. The EC is interested in setting up joint ventures and to transfer the know-how to the industrial sector, he continued.

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Decree extends Lower House session for two more months

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Thursday extending the present session of the Lower House of Parliament for two further months. The present session was due to have ended on March 2nd, 1986. Reuters adds that the session was extended apparently to enable the government to obtain approval of a draft electoral law.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, gave no reasons for the extension of the session, which would have ended on Sunday. But it was thought the government wanted time for Parliament to debate and vote on the bill, Reuters said.

The new law would increase membership in the Lower House to 130 from 60 and lower the voting age to 19 from 20. The government is widely expected to hold general elections to fill those posts but it has not officially announced its intentions.

The East and Israeli-occupied West Bank of Jordan are equally represented in the House, which was recalled in January 1984 for a four year-term, after a 10-year suspension.

The last general election was held just before Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967. The King appoints the 30 members of the Upper House.

Jordan marks Arabisation of its Armed Forces today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saturday March 1 marks the 30th anniversary of Arabising the Jordanian Armed Forces, terminating the services of senior British army officers in 1956.

According to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, the anniversary reminds Jordanians of a decision taken by His Majesty King Hussein to end the services of General John Glubb and other foreign staff and to take steps towards bolstering the Armed Forces and providing them with up to date and sophisticated weapons. The Arabisation move was in line with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, King Hussein's Great Grandfather, Petra said.

The agency published quotes by King Hussein on the move in which he said that the Arabisation of the Armed Forces was purely a Jordanian act. "Differences in views with John Glubb centred on two issues... the role of Arab officers in the army and a Jordanian defence strategy," King Hussein said. He said: "In my position as King, I have the duty of ensuring the country's security and protection and so I had to terminate John Glubb's services."

Petra also quoted King Hussein's message to the nation upon announcing his decision to terminate the services of British officers. He said that the Armed Forces will from now on be led by Arab officers and a programme for providing up to date weapons had already started.

Special celebrations will be held in Amman to commemorate the Arabisation of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Amman Municipality has prepared a programme which, among other things, includes the unveiling of a map of Jordan and Palestine and the inauguration of a new public park in the downtown area of Amman. The programme also includes marches by scouts and Armed Forces bands in and around the new park. Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and senior members of the municipal council will attend the ceremonies.

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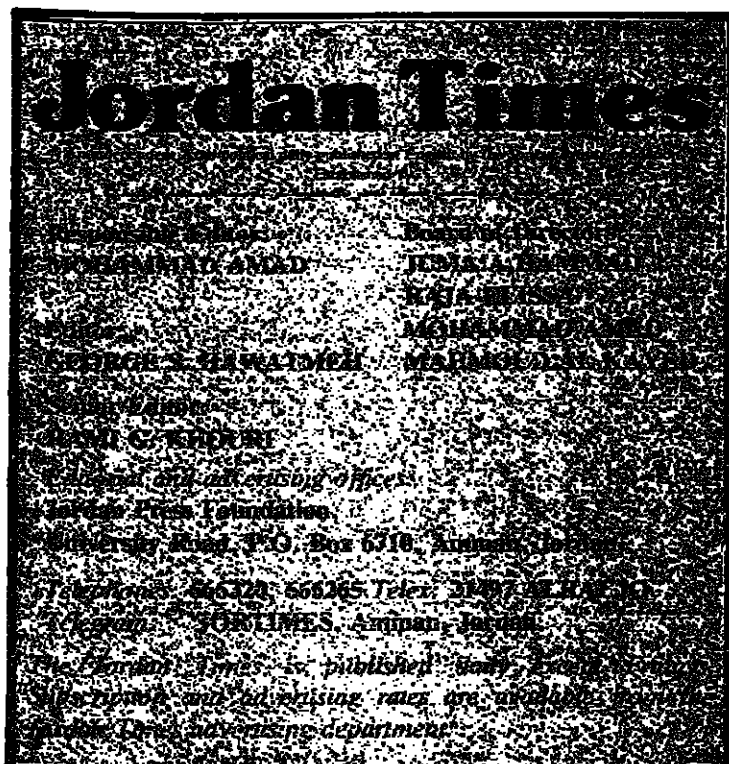
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Grave dangers

THE people of this country are continuing to demonstrate their support for their King and leader by daily visits to the Royal Court. They are calling to express appreciation of the King's endeavours on the Arab and international fronts to regain the Palestinian people's rights and free Palestinian land. The people who call at the Royal Court are well aware of the grave dangers confronting the Arab nation in general and the Jordanian-Palestinian family in particular. These masses, who pay tribute to the King, feel that their leader is determined to carry on with his national policies and pan-Arab strategies for the sake of liberating the Palestinian Arab land and ending the sufferings of the steadfast people living on it. Needless to say that the cohesion among the members of the Jordanian-Palestinian family and the national unity displayed by this steadfast nation serve as an incentive for the King to pursue his efforts and serve Arab causes. The Arab masses of Jordan and Palestine with their support for their leader open the way for serious endeavours leading to the liberation of their kinsmen and the rescue of the holy land.

Al Dustour: Facing the challenges

KING Hussein pointed out the main priority for the Jordanian and Palestinian people at present during his speeches to the various delegations calling at the Royal Court over the past week. The King made it clear that the main priority lies in liberating the Arab land and people of Palestine and preventing the Israeli enemy from carrying out further confiscation of land and eviction of Arab people from their homeland. King Hussein also made it clear that the PLO which is supposed to represent the Palestinian people should free itself from all external influences and free its will so that it can work seriously for the people it represents. Once the PLO adopts this attitude it will find Jordan marching with it hand in hand along a path free of differences leading towards the realisation of national aspirations. The geographic proximity of Palestine to Jordan and the historic links and common destiny linking the peoples on both sides of the Jordan River makes it incumbent on both sides to join forces and follow a joint course. If no more coordination can be made with the PLO leadership then the Palestinian people themselves should assume the initiative and carry out the mission.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan's commitment

FOR Jordan, the Palestine question is of paramount importance, in fact it is a matter of life and death. Jordan is directly affected by Israel's arbitrary measures and continues to be a prime target for Israel's aggression. Jordan cannot simply turn its back on the Palestinians and forget their problem because it is directly and strongly linked with them and with their destiny. It is true that the PLO has been requested by the Arab nation to represent the Palestinian people but it is also true that Jordan cannot help being a partner because of many obvious reasons. What Jordan wants is not to act for the PLO but rather to see that the PLO truly representing the Palestinians. The most important step for the PLO in this direction is to embark on steps that would lead to the liberation of Palestinian land and its people. Therefore, it is up to the Palestinians and the Jordanians together to define their course of action and it is up to the Palestinian peoples to choose the future course.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Time to reconsider

IN his meetings with delegations from various parts of the country, King Hussein called for a reassessment and re-evaluation of the present political situation and our position vis-a-vis the common enemy. The King asked the delegations to discuss in detail the present situation and find a formula to achieve liberation of land and holy places from Israeli occupation. He said, to help do that, he has openly divulged all the facts about his dealings with the PLO leadership and frankly spoken of the present Arab situation. He said that Jordanians and Palestinians are all involved in this question and all have to reach a consensus on the course of action to be taken to achieve the liberation of Arab land in Palestine. King Hussein reaffirmed the need for the strengthening of the country's national unity without which, he said, the country would fail to confront the challenge and would succumb to danger and intimidation.

Al Dustour: Iran's aggression

DESPITE the repeated failures in the confrontation with the Iraqi forces, the Tehran regime continues to put obstacles in the path of all efforts to reach settlement. Despite the defeat of the Iranian forces in the Fao Peninsula and the continuing heavy losses among the Iranian forces in the battlefield, the Iranian rulers seek to perpetuate the conflict and to make a mockery of international bids to reach a solution. The Tehran regime has boycotted the United Nations Security Council debate on the issue and displayed total disregard to the council's resolution, calling for an immediate ceasefire and the withdrawal of forces to international boundaries. In view of the situation, and in the light of Iran's behaviour and continued rejection of the council's resolutions, there can be no alternative but to resort to the implementation of the provisions of the U.N. charter which calls for the imposition of sanctions on those nations that continue to defy international will and the world organisation's resolutions. The international community is urgently called on to impose such sanctions and penalty on the Iranian aggressors to prevent them from continuing their evil practices against other nations.

In the aftermath of Marcos crisis, U.S. ponders its alliance to autocratic regimes

By Christopher Hanson

Reuter

WASHINGTON — The Philippines crisis exposed a policy quandary with implications for U.S. ties to authoritarian governments from Chile to South Korea: How much pressure for Democratic reform can Washington exert without risking its interests?

President Ferdinand Marcos left office on Feb. 25, forced out by a popular uprising after 20 years of rule in which the Reagan administration and its predecessors often pressed him to restore democracy and root out corruption.

Congressional critics say U.S. pressure was not forceful enough because Washington feared it would pull the rug from under a staunch U.S. ally, leading to a less friendly Manila government and possible loss of key U.S. military bases.

With democratic opposition movements gathering force in

South Korea, Chile and South Africa, Washington seems likely to face more tough decisions evoking the Philippines crisis before too long. Western diplomats say.

In the Middle East, U.S. friends such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia face the possibility of future turmoil stirred by Islamic fundamentalists.

Critics of Reagan administration foreign policy such as American University professor Gareth Porter say Washington must apply a lesson from its Philippines "failure" in dealing with future turmoil in those countries.

"The stark and striking lesson is not to exaggerate the firepower of the regime and under-emphasize the power of a popular opposition," Porter told Reuters.

Washington must be prepared to throw its full moral support behind a democratic opposition movement much earlier than it did in the Philippines, he said.

President Reagan's reluctance to back away from Marcos, even after widespread evidence that he

stole the February 7 election from opposition candidate Corason Aquino, has left a legacy of bitterness among Filipinos, although close diplomatic ties will continue, U.S. diplomats say.

And long-standing U.S. support for Marcos may inadvertently have contributed to the rise of a large Philippines Marxist movement exploiting anti-Marcos sentiment, according to Western diplomats. That insurgency posed serious troubles for the new government.

In defence of American policy, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said on Feb. 25 that Washington had been consistent in backing the forces of Philippines democracy.

The Philippines was only the latest in a series of crises in which Washington was accused of failing to find the right formula for exerting pressure on faltering, non-democratic allies.

President Eisenhower was attacked by democratic politicians for tying Washington too closely

to Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista in the 1950s, helping give rise to a rebellion which brought anti-American Fidel Castro to power.

President Carter faced sharp criticism from presidential candidate Reagan, among others, for his handling of flare-ups in Nicaragua and Iran.

These conservative critics say Carter pressed dictator Anastasio Somoza and the Shah of Iran too vigorously to effect democratic reforms, then unwisely encouraged them to depart when chaos loomed, inadvertently fostering the rise of bitterly anti-U.S. governments in Tehran and Managua.

In the case of Cuba, the United States was accused of not pressing hard enough for reform, while in Nicaragua and Iran it was alleged to have pressed too hard. Finding the right formula for safeguarding U.S. interests is obviously not easy.

The new government which emerged in Haiti this month after

U.S.-backed dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier went into exile does appear to be pro-American, but Regan had been faulted for not pressing hard enough against corruption under the Duvalier government, which went unchecked for years.

It appears that Washington may face difficulties soon in pro-U.S. South Korea, where the government has been cracking down on opposition parties backing a more democratic system.

The Reagan administration has tended to promote relaxation in South Korea but fear that it might get out of hand... (but) going along with the status quo may be bringing new uncertainty anyway," the Washington Post said in an editorial, Feb. 25.

South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan met key opposition leaders on Feb. 24, in a move to defuse tensions and said he would allow them to convene a party meeting police had barred.

Another potential problem area is Chile, where demonstrations

against the government of President Augusto Pinochet, who seized power in a bloody 1973 coup, are on the increase.

Washington has pressed Chile for a return to democracy, but is also anxious not to encourage resurgence of the Marxist forces which took power in the 1970 elections which ultimately spelled the coup.

In South Africa, a large non-violent movement has emerged to battle entrenched race discrimination.

Washington has urged an end to the white supremacist system of apartheid there, but also wants to avoid a leftist anti-American opposition taking power, Pretoria is staunchly anti-Communist.

Critics of U.S. policy, which has sought a continued dialogue with South Africa, say the United States is now widely perceived in black Africa as pro-Pretoria and that any black majority government which ultimately might emerge could be quite bitter toward the United States.

Cautious steps for Nepal

The World's only Hindu kingdom is a buffer state between India, China and the Soviet Union. It tries to court each equally but it must decide which path to tread after years of isolation. John Elliott reports:

KATHMANDU — Senior army officers saluted and cannon fired recently in a small 17th-century palace courtyard in the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu while a military band played the national anthem, drowning the efforts of two groups of Hindu musicians at a ceremony formally welcoming the coming of spring.

Flanked by his cabinet and advisers, Eton-educated King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev watched impassively. He was fulfilling his role in the cacophony as a reincarnation of the Hindu god Vishnu — the provider of the Hindu trinity — and as ruler of this small Himalayan kingdom where Queen Elizabeth II paid a five-day visit.

This ceremony, as Kathmandu's streets were being levelled and cleaned for the Queen, brought together the main centres of power of this almost medieval, poor kingdom which is both an international tourists' haven and a sensitive buffer state between China and India.

The King is regarded by many as an absolute ruler, relying in part for his authority on his Hindu people's respect for the God-linked monarchy. But he also relies on the total support of the army. His cabinet, chosen by him from members elected to a non-party national assembly, shows the regime is moving gradually towards a democratic system, albeit more slowly than political activists would like.

Nepal was never part of the British empire in spite of its proximity to India. It maintained virtual independence after an 1815 war with Britain.

In return, it has provided generations of Gurkha soldiers who still make up about 8,400 of the British Army's strength and played a significant role in the Falklands War.

Nepal is proud that it stayed independent. But the price it paid was an almost total lack of any development until 1951 because it was ruled by a prime ministerial family, called the Ranas, who closed the country's borders, personally thriving on its backwardness.

The royal family reasserted its authority in 1951. It threw the Ranas out of office and briefly experimented with a political party system in which the pro-India Nepali Congress Party formed a government. The then king replaced this in 1961 with the present *panchayat* non-party system. In 1980, following student demonstrations, King Birendra called a referendum which backed the partyless system with a 55 to 45 per cent majority, probably indicating a 50-50 split after allowing for some inevitable ballot-rigging.

The 35th anniversary of the ousting of the Ranas was celebrated on Democracy Day — a public holiday when the Queen officially rested in the Kathmandu royal palace and the Duke of Edinburgh visited a tiger reserve.

But all is not well beneath the surface of this, the world's only Hindu kingdom, where the literacy rate is estimated at only 15 to 22 per cent of the 17 million population, where the population growth rate of 2.6 per cent a year (one of the world's highest) exceeds the agricultural annual growth rate of 1.7 to 2.5 per cent, and where deep-rooted corruption siphons off a large proportion of international aid and cripples the country's economic growth and public administration.

These issues have come to a head with a 14.7 per cent devaluation about two months ago and with elections planned for May to the non-party national assembly. The elections will test the resolve of the King and his

palace entourage of family and advisers to resist pressures to move further towards a Western-style democracy.

They are under pressure from the banned Nepali Congress Party to recognise parties, or at least to allow members who stand as individuals to have a common manifesto or common symbol. But the feeling against parties is strong and major concessions are most unlikely.

"We cannot raise the money in the country to fund parties and party elections so the parties would go to X, Y and Z country — and I could name another — for funds," says Mr. Radha Dair Sabha, 77-year-old Foreign Minister.

"The election would then not be a battle between Nepalese parties but between major countries," he agreed that "X, Y and Z" were India, China and the Soviet Union with the U.S. as the likely other donor.

Nepal is highly conscious of its position as a buffer state and courts China. It is specially wary of increasing its dependence on India, with which it has an open border and freely convertible exchange. More than 90 per cent of its foreign trade passes through India which itself accounts for about 60 to 70 per cent of total two-way trade.

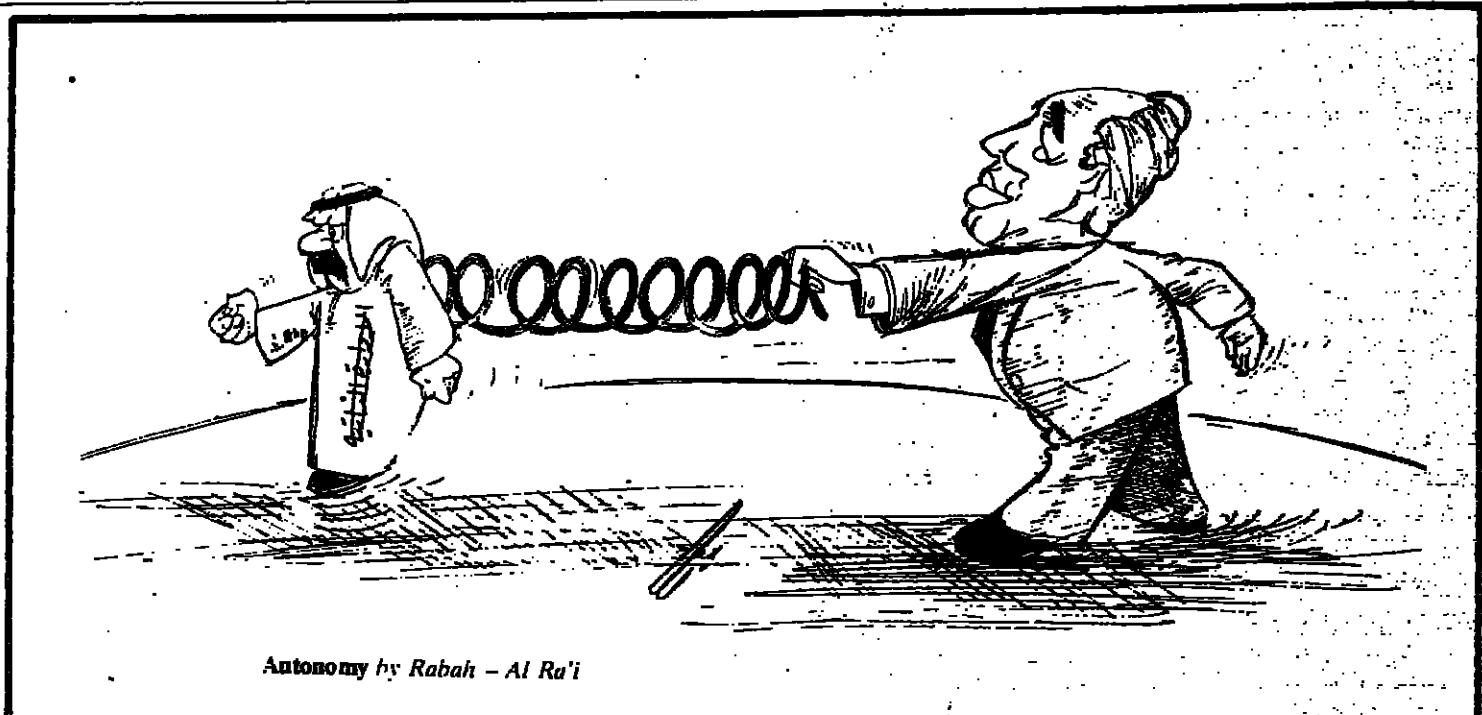
Rapidly-increasing imports from India, which has taken over the country's garment industry, plus an outflow of funds with black money going into India's booming stock market, led to a recent devaluation. This was accompanied by a \$1.7 billion standby loan from the International Monetary Fund, two-thirds of which has already been drawn.



Foreign currency reserves, which had fallen to Nepalese Rs2 billion (\$95 million), have risen to Rs3 billion, roughly equivalent to three months' imports, according to Mr. Prakash Lohani, Finance Minister. But balance of payments problems continue with income from tourism, the second major foreign exchange earner, dropping 33 per cent in 1983-84 to \$40 million. A boost in carpet exports to \$12 million has partially helped to offset this decline.

Aid from foreign countries and agencies provides the major source of foreign exchange inflows and provides 70 per cent of the development budget. India is believed to provide a total of \$50 million a year followed by Japan with \$27 million and the U.S., U.K. and West Germany each at around \$10 million to \$20 million.

The last time the Queen visited Nepal 25 years ago, the Nepali Congress Party had just been thrown out of power by the then King. The country has opened itself to the world since then, but faces two crucial challenges — first to develop its political system so that it avoids the sort of violent unrest which has bedevilled some of its South Asian neighbours and secondly to develop huge untapped sources of hydro-electric power, which could transform its economy — Financial Times news feature.



Turkey's opposition leader takes to the road

By Paul Bolding

Reuter

ANKARA — A former university professor who became Turkey's opposition leader two years after entering politics has launched a campaign to rally support at home and gain recognition abroad.

Aydin Gurken Gurkan, who heads the Social Democratic Populist Party (SDPP), has already begun touring eight Turkish provinces where parliamentary by-elections must be held within 18 months and was due to leave on Feb. 28 to visit 10 West European countries.

In Europe, he will seek backing from like-minded parties ahead of a July meeting in Bern of the Socialist International at which the SDPP will apply for membership. With 83 seats in the 400-member parliament, the SDPP is the main opposition to the conservative Motherland Party of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, which has 207 seats.

Gurkan, 44, asserts that the SDPP, formed last November when two leftist groups merged, is the country's largest political party with support from a more 40 per cent of the country's voters.

In the traditionally conservative city of Konya where Gurkan began his provincial tour this month, reaction was attentive but

far from tumultuous, even from the party faithful.

"This is how it should be. The mood does not need to be so high just when there are no elections taking place in the near future," Gurkan later told Reuters in an interview.

There has been speculation that the by-elections could be held this year, although the government can wait until November 1987. Under the constitution, by-elections take place only once in each parliamentary term and at least one year before the next general election.

Gurkan entered politics in 1983 when preparations were announced for a return to civilian government after three years of military rule.

He was elected to parliament for the Populist Party from the southern town of Antalya, became chairman of the party at its first convention in June last year and then SDPP chairman when his party merged with the Social Democratic Party three months ago.

Gurkan is critical of continuing constitutional and legislative restrictions on political activity that, for example, ban students and teachers from joining political parties and outlaw links between trade unions and parties.

Ozal has appeared to be happy with the restrictions, a legacy of

the 1980 military takeover that ended a period of political violence in which more than 5,000 people died.

Gurkan, a professor of economics, was vice-president of Ankara's Gazi University at the time, but resigned two years later in protest at a reorganisation of higher education which was used to wrinkle out leftists and to depoliticise campuses.

Today, he accuses Ozal of "deliberately depoliticising the masses."

"No one has said more loudly than we that we want the constitution changed. We just want a Western democratic constitution," he said.

Gurkan, with a doctorate in economics from West Germany's Cologne University, feels well equipped to challenge detailed economic arguments from Ozal.

On the stump in Konya, he slammed the government for an annual inflation rate of more than 40 per cent. He spoke of falling living standards and echoed farmers' complaints about low agricultural prices.

"We must increase farm prices to allow the farmers to become efficient. This does not mean higher shop prices," he said afterwards.

He is critical of Ozal, as he puts it, promoting exports at the cost of big subsidies and without

investing in export industries. "This means we have no resources left at home and the central bank just prints money to cover this," he told Reuters.

In Konya, he also echoed repeated claims of ill-treatment of detainees and demands that the thousands of political prisoners be amnestied.

Foreign issues were not forgotten. Applause greeted an attack on Ozal for failing, as Gurkan would have it, to regain Turkey's international prestige.

His audience was almost exclusively male and over 30. "We regret that there are few women in politics here," he later said. "We have tried to bring them into the party."

Gurkan will not talk about his prospects of becoming prime minister. "It is too soon for that," he said.

A poll taken as the SDPP was formed gave its two constituent parties a total of 39.2 per cent and Ozal's party 30.1 per cent.

But Gurkan's calculations could be upset by the Democratic Left Party formed late last year by Rahsan Ecevit and, largely inspired by her husband, former Social Democratic prime minister Bulent Ecevit.

He was banned from politics for 10 years in 1982 for what the military saw as his role in political unrest in the 1970s.

Eurocommunism dead issue at Soviet party congress

By Patrick Worsnip

Reuter

LONDON — A new emphasis by both Soviet and Western Communists on left-wing alliances to combat the U.S. military presence in Europe seems to be replacing old squabbles over "Eurocommunism," Western diplomats say.

Eurocommunism, which pitted major West European communist parties against Moscow a decade ago, is likely to be a forgotten issue at the 27th Soviet Communist Party congress which opened on Tuesday, the diplomats said.

The term was coined in the 1970s to define the policies of the Italian, Spanish, French and some other parties which were then stressing their adherence to Western democratic rules and independence of the Kremlin.

The movement was viewed with grave suspicion by the Soviet party, which was nevertheless forced, at a conference on European Communist parties in 1976, to drop its claim to a "leading role" in the world Communist movement.

Since then, the domestic troubles of Western Europe's Communists and the rise of a new generation of Kremlin leaders, headed by party chief Mikhail Gorbachev, have combined to make the whole dispute a thing of the past.

The new Soviet line was spelled out by Gorbachev only three weeks ago at a Moscow banquet for visiting Italian Communist Party leader Alessandro Natta.

"On some questions, including political ones, left-wing currents differ," he declared. "But, in the opinion of the (Soviet Communist Party) these disagreements... are far less important than the task, the desire to avert the threat of war."

Describing differences with the Italian Communists as "valuable and necessary," he called for "a common political denominator for joint action and cooperation on the cardinal question of our time."

Almost exactly 10 years have passed since the Soviet establishment was rocked by the Eurocommunist onslaught at the otherwise unremarkable 25th Soviet party congress.

Late Italian Communist chief Enrico Berlinguer, at the height of his bid to win power through the ballot box, declared he supported pluralism and Italian membership of NATO. The French Communists proclaimed that they were pursuing "Socialism in French colours."

The European Communist conference in East Berlin just four months later was devoted to arcane wrangles over phrases like "proletarian internationalism," which was construed as meaning Soviet domination.

Communists.

All such references were dropped from the final document after its text had been through six fiercely contested drafts.

The Italian Communist Party, the largest in the West, has maintained its independent stance, including its commitment to Western institutions and opposition to the Soviet invasions of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan.

But there is little talk now of Eurocommunism, whose main plank, the forging of links with like-minded Communist parties abroad, has fallen through with the disintegration of the Spaniards and defection of the French.

Italian political commentators say the Communists are more interested in cultivating the so-called "Euroleft" involving ties with parties having a real chance of forming governments, such as West Germany's Social Democrats and Britain's Labour Party.

Democracy proved fatal to the Spanish Communist Party (PCE), which has Spain's biggest organised force at the death of rightist dictator Francisco Franco in 1975, but split three ways after losing more than half its vote in 1982 elections.

Veteran leader Santiago Carrillo quarrelled with his successor, Gerardo Iglesias, who sought to widen the PCE's base to all left-wingers in order to recoup votes.

Carrillo was expelled from the central committee last year and formed his own platform for the unity of Communists. A hardline pro-Soviet faction also broke away in 1984, calling itself the Communist Party (PC).

A source in Iglesias' PCE said the party's problems had eclipsed Eurocommunism. "We maintain the same line, but we don't talk about the issue," he said.

In France, the French Communist Party's adherence to Eurocommunism in the mid-1970s is now seen by political analysts as a brief interlude coinciding with its attempt to ally with Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party.

By 1978, Communist-Socialist cooperation was on the rocks and the Communists returned to a rigidly "orthodox" position, culminating in party leader Georges Marchais' expression of "understanding" for the 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

The Communists derived no profit from their alliance with the Socialists and have seen their share of the post-war decline from about 25 per cent in the 1960s to only 11 per cent at European Parliament elections in 1984.

Most of the liberal reforms have been driven out of the leadership and analysts see little chance of the party changing course as long as Marchais, 65, remains at the helm.



Talking straight Marwan Muasher

Will new technology change our value system?

NINETY per cent of all the knowledge man amassed has been acquired in the last thirty years. It is estimated that man will double his present knowledge in the next thirty years.

The times we live in are indeed changing fast while technology resulting from man's knowledge was introduced gradually into society before the number of new products and the rate at which they are being introduced today is phenomenal.

The micro-electronics revolution has led to the development of even more powerful computers, calculators, home appliances, cars, and a variety of other products. The emerging field of biotechnology, the science that looks closely at the very organisms behind life itself, holds the promise of curing diseases and extracting useful products out of living organisms. And in the field of artificial intelligence, man is building robots that can carry out many of the repetitive and difficult tasks in manufacturing more efficiently, and which can make intelligent decisions.

All these fast changes are raising serious philosophical questions about where our "world society" is heading. It is only natural for people, in this world of constant and fast change, to ponder about their very future. The most serious worry that people have about technology is whether it will result in a destruction of their value system. Will computers result in a mechanical world void of emotions? Is it right to tamper with genes and alter forms of life? Is the field of robotics going to lead to machines doing the same things over and over in the process of one of his most important assets, ingenuity, by suppressing innovation? Further, will robots replace human beings, increase unemployment, or the ultimate question, rule the world?

These and other questions are asked today by all people, from technology-producing societies as well as from technology-using ones, albeit to varying degrees of sophistication.

I propose a simple answer to whether our present value system will be greatly changed, yes. There is no reason why people, especially those who are technology-minded, should try to hide this fact, as if it is a malice or an admission of guilt.

I say new technologies will result in new value systems just as it has always done throughout the history of mankind. And yet, people continue to mistakenly believe that the moral fears they have are new.

Discoveries or inventions of the wheel, fire, iron, paper all changed the way man lived, reasoned and behaved drastically. The last big revolution in the field of information before the computer one was probably that of the printing press.

And it was then, just as now, that many people defended the old value system and fought against the introduction of new ideas by technology. Yet few people today hold the values or principles of their predecessors few hundred years ago.

History has always taught us that man continues not only to affect his inventions, but also be affected by them. Thus, change is an inevitable process of evolution that cannot be stopped or reversed. It would be naive to call for new technologies without the accompanying social and moral values that result from them.

The two are inseparable. It would also be naive to assume that our present set of values should be universal in its regulation of society. There is no reason to assume, but plenty to the contrary, that our values would work in the future or that our future generations would want to live the way we do.

And yet it is not wrong to try to influence ways in which society is redirected. Man has done that frequently, and in some cases he even succeeded. But it is important to understand the difference between trying to influence change and resisting it. The first is plausible, the second impossible.

Technology affects different societies to varying degrees, as it adds in each society to an already existing reservoir of ideas and practices that constitute the values of that society. Thus we cannot assume that a particular technology

will have the same effect on us as it would have on, say, the U.S. What is certain, though, is that it will affect us, and it should. For only in accepting the process of change can we hope to try to influence it for one good.

The most fascinating change to me, one that will dramatically affect the world, is in the field of information. Just like the printing press allowed a large number of people cheap access to information, so is the new technology bringing the world inside the screen of a home computer, only faster, cheaper, and in much larger proportions.

Today, people in the U.S. can have news, stock information, editorials and other subject on the screen of their computer, and at the touch of a button. One can read news from Ap, UPI, TASS, Reuters, or read editorials from the New York Times, Pravda or Le Monde.

This is the beginning of another intellectual revolution, as computers become another home item like TV, and as people will receive first-hand, unedited, unaltered, original information. In the near future, people will perceive the world through their own eyes, not those of others, and in the process change it.

This hopefully will result in more open societies, and in better, closer contact and understanding among all people of the globe.

Thus, if we are sane enough not to destroy the world in the coming 20 to 30 years, we will be able to witness an information revolution of major proportions. And if we worry about how this will affect our lives, perhaps we ought to direct our energies to use this vast sea of information we will be acquiring for the benefit of our country and that of mankind.

Channel 6 preview Return of the prodigals

By J.H. Boteler

I dare say that you are intrigued by the title: don't worry, all shall be revealed in due course. For the moment though I am going to break with tradition and start with a separate section dealing exclusively with:

Tonight's programmes

I assure you that there is a good reason for this. On the surface there should be no problem, since both *Mind Your Language* and *Starring The Actors* are those episodes scheduled for last week but held over by a very extended eight-o'clock news programme. Therefore we can enjoy the panic caused by Lassar fever in the one, and Anthony Hopkins in the other. This is fine, as far as it goes. However, both programmes are being shown half-an-hour later than usual. The reason is a special programme, presented by JTV in cooperation with the Arab Women Graduate Club: *Portraits From Jordan*. This concentrates on the various costumes and dances worn and performed by women from the different tribes and regions of the kingdom. This is scheduled for 8.30 (but, there's always a but), it may be delayed. The reason for this is that it was in March, 1956 that His Majesty King Hussein dismissed Colonel Glubb and turned the Arab Legion into the Royal Jordanian Army. In commemoration of this, JTV hopes to screen a programme relating to the subject, which will probably form part of the eight-o'clock news. Depending on the length of this, one of the three programmes mentioned above may be postponed, and I am told that *Starring The Actors* has drawn the short straw and is ready to walk the plank, if so required; a noble man, Anthony Hopkins.

Mini-series and feature film

Well, since we're on Saturday, why not? Yes, it's a mini-series time again, and this month's promises to be quite fun. *Love And Larceny* is a Canadian production and it tells the story of a country lass, who cons and schemes her way to wealth and happiness. It is also a true story, since its heroine, Betsy Bigley, (alias Mrs. Chadwick, alias Pelvina de Vere), is fashioned after a real-life Mrs. Chadwick and her exploits in conning and swindling a succession of gullible men in southern Ontario and northern New York state in the 1890's.

Thursday's feature film is called *Two Of A Kind* and stars the evergreen George Burns as Ross "Boppy" Minor, who becomes increasingly weak since his wife's death until he has to come back from Florida to live in a nursing home near his son Frank's family. Grandfather's arrival is an added burden for Frank and his wife Dot for, apart from Boppy, who spends his days staring into a space and never speaking, they also have a retarded son, Noli. Although Dot is sending Noli to a special school she wants him to remain her little boy. Frank, who regards his son as somewhat of an embarrassment, wants him to be and act like a man. These unrealistic attitudes are also extended towards Boppy. But Noli is not going to give up on his grandfather, and tries to teach him exercises each day after school. The film charts the relationship between Boppy and Noli and shows the ways in which both help each other. Now for the rest of the week's programmes.

Comedies

Tomorrow, (Sunday), has the final episode of *The Cabbage Patch*. This excellent series bows out with friend and neighbour Suzie encamped, along with her baby Gemma, in Janet's happy

home. She has had a row with her husband Craig because he suspects her of having an affair with his partner Rupert. (He should talk!) Anyway Tony — still up in Scotland — is furious and the situation is only saved by the ministrations and crafty wiles of both Amanda and Lillian. Lighthouses figure prominently in Carol Burnett And Friends on Monday, while Tuesday's *That's My Boy* has a very confused Ida. She has received a postcard from Mrs. Price signed "Cecilia," and since she never calls her by this name she suspects that something must be wrong. Jack Tripper has to demonstrate a recipe on TV in Wednesday's *Three's Company* and is so nervous at the prospect he makes a complete hash of it (no pun intended). Thursday's *Goodnight And Good Bless* has a couple of nasty surprises for Ronnie Kemp. One is the news that he has been dropped from his TV show, the other is that his wife Celia is having an affair. He also manages to fall into the swimming pool and, all in all, life is fairly gloomy for him. Disaster strikes Mr. Belvedere on Friday. While his parents are away Kevin has an accident, and the house is marooned by the bad weather.

Documentaries

Wednesday sees the fourth and final part of *Ancient Lives*, and introduces the village scribe Djutmose and his son Butamen and explains how they managed to survive the starvation that came during the "Year of the Hyena." We also learn how Butamen checked on the looted tombs in the Valley of the Kings and the horrifying sights that he discovered, and how he collected the coffins of the ancient Kings and secretly reburied them, only to be rediscovered in recent years. Finally we are shown how the village was abandoned, but not before the villagers had left one last mystery: where did they bury King Heribor?

Cyprus is the subject of *End Of Empire*, (tomorrow, Sunday). In all of Britain's Middle Eastern possessions except Aden nationalism was active before the British came. Cyprus was no exception, but its attempts to be united with the Kingdom of Greece was repeatedly refused since the British were wary of provoking a reaction from Turkey, fierce rivals of Greece and, until 1878, rulers of Cyprus. Furthermore, successive governments in Athens from 1922, when Turkey decisively beat Greece in a war, until 1954 accepted the British view. However in 1950 Archbishop Makarios III, as head of the Greek Orthodox church in Cyprus, was the leader of the richest and most powerful organisation on the island. Determined to make the unification dream a reality, he organised a petition in favour of it and sent the results to the United Nations, addressed rallies in Athens — much to the embarrassment of the Greek government — and recruited a Greek colonel who had been dismissed from the army for cruelty, George Grivas, to run a military campaign in Cyprus. But the British, recently expelled from their military bases in Palestine and Egypt, saw Cyprus as vital to them in fulfilling their military treaty commitments in the area. British ministers therefore informed the government in Athens and, in 1954, the public that Cyprus would "never" be granted self-determination. Makarios and Grivas had failed to win over the Greek government to support Enosis (unification). But Britain's harsh and un diplomatic "never" typical of her short-sighted stubbornness in foreign policy at the time — so aroused Greek public feeling that it did the trick. In

April 1955 Grivas's military organisation, EOKA, set off its first bombs in Cyprus. The British had no idea that these acts of violence enjoyed both the active support of the Archbishop and the blessing of Britain's close ally, Greece. Within months the military campaign achieved its aim. The British government withdrew its "never" and informed the Archbishop that it would agree to arrangements for an elected government of Cyprus which, if it could demonstrate majority support for Enosis, would in a few years be allowed its wish. But Makarios and Grivas did not trust the British. (I wonder why?) They pressed for more concessions to be made immediately. This was a mistake since Britain, who in fact had acted in good faith over the concessions, were already being criticised by Turkey over them. At this point Britain made a major blunder by deporting Makarios and setting about crushing EOKA. In part due to Grivas's genius as a guerrilla commander, EOKA's infiltration of the local police led the British to commit another bad mistake: this time with far more disastrous and longer-lasting results. They recruited Turkish Cypriots, (who comprised a twenty per cent minority on the island), to combat EOKA. By 1958 Turkish and Greek Cypriots — who for centuries had lived together in the same streets — were fighting each other, living in separate areas of the island, and vast crowds in Greece and Turkey were passionately supporting the two sides. Britain was unable to restore order. A settlement was finally achieved when the facts of power were laid bare. Britain was eager to go. Turkey was the strongest country in the region and able to insist on a garrison of troops on the island. The Greek government and, eventually, Makarios had to accept it. The Archbishop, who had turned down a clear path to Enosis in 1956, was forced in 1960 to agree to a circumscribed independence with Turkey given a right to intervene in the island's affairs.

All dressed up, with nowhere to go. *Sense and Sensibility*, Monday at 9:10

murdering people in nightclubs.

Drama though is a very different kettle of fish, and is the reason for my title this week. Two series that were originally scheduled earlier finally make it to the screens. The first is the adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense And Sensibility*, on Monday, and boasts Robert Swann and Peter Woodward in a strong cast. The story pivots on the Dashwood sisters: Elinor the eldest whose dignity and restraint represent the "sense" and Marianne, excitable and impetuous, who represents "sensitivity." Despite their opposing natures the sisters are devoted to one another. On the death of her husband Mrs. Dashwood and her daughters find themselves in straitened circumstances, the Dashwood estate having passed to Mrs. Dashwood's greedy and selfish stepson, John, who encouraged by his equally unappealing wife has failed to carry out his father's wish to see to the needs of his widow and daughters. The ladies are forced to leave their beloved house in Norwood for the more modest confines of a Devonshire cottage. On Tuesday night we can say hello to brave Anthony Hopkins, (see above), who is A Married Man. It is August 1973 and John Strickland, a successful barrister, is 40 years old. At a time when many men would settle for a comfortable cruise into middle age, Strickland decides to take charge of his life once more. Rejecting the needs of his young wife, Claire, and seeking to make a positive contribution to society, Strickland decides to become a Labour MP — and finds himself an isolated socialist among his middle-class colleagues and friends. When he turns elsewhere for solace, support and love, he finds himself enmeshed in a web of lies and treachery that lays bare his weaknesses and makes extraordinary demands on his strengths. Which leaves us with Friday's *Kane And Abel*, in which the last-named is facing financial ruin. Is all lost? No, for a fairy god-mother, in the form of an anonymous benefactor, bails his hotel chain out. Maybe it's Leroy, who is such a Boris Karloff look-alike, one half expects him to start walking through walls with his arms at full stretch. Meanwhile, the evil Osborne is waiting in the wings, and love is never far away.

Detectives and drama

The first category is easily dealt with this week. If the tapes arrive in time Tuesday will see another episode of *Murder, She Wrote*, whilst on Friday *Hunter* goes after some character who goes around

Tonight
Portraits Of Jordan8:30
Mind Your Language9:10
Starring The Actors9:30
Mini-Series: Love And Larceny (Part One)10:20

Sunday
The Cabbage Patch8:30
End Of Empire9:10
Mini-Series: Love And Larceny (Part Two)10:20

Monday
Carol Burnett And Friends8:30
Sense And Sensibility9:10
Dallas10:20

Tuesday
That's My Boy8:30
A Married Man9:10
Murder, She Wrote (Provisional)10:20

Wednesday
Three's Company8:30
Ancient Lives9:10
Falcon Crest10:20

Thursday
Goodnight And Good Bless8:30
Return To Eden9:10
Feature Film: Two Of A Kind10:20

Friday
Mr. Belvedere8:30
Kane And Abel9:10
Hunter10:20



All dressed up, with nowhere to go. *Sense and Sensibility*, Monday at 9:10

I'm gonna deevorce y'all, and here's a dreel-beet" — a going away present superbly symbolic of the state of the heart in downtown Texas. What did come as a shock was J.R. telling Bobby that he no longer cared about Ewing. Now that is serious! *Falcon Crest*, (Wednesday), roars happily on, with its multifarious hate-fests going full blast. As elsewhere, illegitimate children are all the rage, and this week Cole steps up the fight to regain his own son. He should succeed: last week even bone-headed Lance had an attack of common-sense and called Melissa "a sneaky little slut". Best line was reserved for Cole though. Emma — the Mad Midget — said to him, apropos of Richard Channing's "write in" women: "He likes them tall, doesn't he?" Cole, looking down, replied: "Don't we all?" Vicious. This week Angela provides Doc Langree with a passport to help him leave the country. If I was him I'd take my chances in sing-sing instead. Angela will probably bludge

mail the Pentagon into shooting him down with a ground-to-air missile. Pride of place though must go to *Return To Eden*, (Thursday). Mass lunacy, tantrums, suicide, incest, it's all there. Son Denis proved himself a superklutz by believing Auntie Jilly and voting Mum out of a job. Who's going to pay your allowance now you bork? Last week also had a perfect example of the world media's "understanding" of the Arab World. Stephanie to her secretary: "Get me Prince Amal, Arabian Gulf." Erm, rightish. I've heard of simplified addresses, but this one beats the lot. The Prince himself had blue eyes, and an accent that ranged from 1920's Oxford to the Punjab. If the actor was an Arab, I'm a Martian. Ah, well, perhaps next week they can give us a bumper episode, that proves J.R. and Jill Stewart to be the illegitimate children of Angela Channing. As "write in" put it: "Maybe they'll tell us something else next week, when they remember a different truth."

France and Paris at war over modern sculpture

By Barbara Bright
Reuter

PARIS — A controversial modern sculpture commissioned by Culture Minister Jack Lang for the courtyard of the 17th-century Palais Royal has become the subject of a legal fight between the French government and the city of Paris.

The sculpture, 252 columns in varying heights of black and white striped marble, has outraged many Parisians and prompted a campaign by the right-wing *Le Figaro* newspaper to stop "the plunder" of a Paris landmark.

In the 17th century the elegant Palais Royal was home to the famous statesman, Cardinal Richelieu. It now belongs to the state and houses the Council of State, the Culture Ministry and, in an 18th-century addition, the Comedie Francaise Theatre.

A Paris administrative court has ordered that work be temporarily halted until the Council of State, France's highest administrative body, reaches a decision on the project.

A Culture Ministry spokeswoman said the ministry had not yet received the court order, and declined to speculate on what action would be taken until the court order could be examined.

"The ministry obeys the laws and doesn't obey a newspaper," she said, referring to the *Le Figaro* campaign.

Lawyer Guillaume Delvolle, who has been arguing the case for the city of Paris, told Reuters the sculpture was illegal on procedural and artistic grounds.

"The sculpture perverts a monument," said Delvolle. "It shows a lack of respect, it destroys the site."

Lang, a Socialist, had not consulted Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac before starting work on the sculpture, said Delvolle, and had also disregarded the views of the state monuments commission.

Chirac is leader of the opposition Gaullist rally for the republic, part of a right-wing coalition expected to win parliamentary elections on March 16 and oust the ruling Socialists.

Delvolle said he expected that the Council of State would make a decision quickly — "probably a minimum delay of three months."

At the worksite, Patrick Bouchain, the architect in charge of constructing sculptor Daniel Buren's work, says he has not received an order from the Culture

Ministry to stop, and he does not expect to.

"The state owns the site, not the city, and I expect work to continue," he said. "We've slowed down because of the cold, but not because of the law."

He said the Culture Ministry had been 15 days late in filing for a construction permit from the city.

"If I do receive a notice to stop work," Bouchain told Reuters, "it will only be for three days while the ministry appeals to the Council of State." The court order, he said, was an attempt to stop the sculpture "because they don't like it, not because it's illegal."

Buren's work has not attracted such attention in the past. Despite several exhibitions throughout Europe, this is his first major event, and certainly his first controversial one.

When the country is reeling under abject poverty and unemployment, and the number of hungry people is increasing?" Ahmed asked.

Municipal officials say 100,000 rickshaws ply Dhaka's streets. Each is pedalled by three men on separate shifts, with every driver responsible for feeding an average of five mouths.

Several thousand people are also involved in making, repairing or selling spare parts for rickshaws.

Another police officer, Abdur Raquib Khandaker, told a seminar recently that most rickshaw drivers had migrated to cities to escape unemployment in their villages.

Most lived in city slums or had built their own shanties and were united in their defiance of any move to displace them financially or socially.

"Once out of work they will almost certainly take to crime — murder, hijacking or theft, and controlling them would surely be too gigantic a task for the police or other law enforcement agents," he said.

The government still clings to the hope of finding a solution to the problem but does not know what to do with drivers who would be unemployed if the rickshaws were banned.

Bangladesh Industry Minister Sultan Mahmud announced last December that Dhaka University engineering students had designed a mechanised version of the rickshaw which he claimed would be faster, accommodate more people and be economically viable in the long run.

Rickshaws look set to stay on Bangladesh streets

By Anis Ahmed
Reuter

DHAKA — Year after year the Bangladesh government has shied to rid its city streets of their worst traffic hazard — the rickshaw.

But year after year its efforts to replace the ancient form of transport with faster and safer ways for people to travel fail and the number of rickshaws continues to grow.

The authorities blame the pedal-powered three-wheeled vehicles for nearly 70 per cent of an average 2,500 road deaths each year.

"Just like boats on the rivers and bullock-carts on dirt roads, rickshaws will perhaps stay on the streets of Dhaka and other cities for decades to come," one rickshaw driver told Reuters as he pedalled past a crowded Dhaka intersection.

Abdul Jabbar, who said he was the leader of a rickshaw drivers' union, dismissed fears that the tri-cycle riders would soon be forced to do something else for a living.

"All bids to drive us off the streets have proved futile and impractical in the past and will do so in the future," said Jabbar, 30, who has pedalled rickshaws for 14 years.

Jabbar may sound overconfident, but according to at least one traffic sergeant, he is correct. Sergeant Salahuddin Ahmed Based said banning rickshaws could jeopardise the livelihood of up to a quarter of Dhaka's six million people and indirectly affect thousands more.

"Who's going to take such a risk

when the country is reeling under abject poverty and unemployment, and the number of hungry people is increasing?" Ahmed asked.

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Prince Abdullah wins Jerash Rally

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah and co-driver Amer Bilbeisi clinched a resounding victory in the 1986 Rotmans Jerash Rally early Friday in an Opel Manta 400 with a one minute 48 second lead over Nabil Karam and Samir Zeine in an identical car.

Hani Bisharat, driving a Toyota Corolla GT, was placed third with a timing of 51 minutes 56 seconds — 41 seconds behind Karam. Bisharat and his co-driver Wafai Mseis were followed by Nabil Dirani and Hamed Ghazi's Opel Manta 200 (53:09), Issa Halsebi and Ziad Hamzeh's Toyota Corolla GT (53:41), Hailam Mufti and Bill Gwynne's Daihatsu Charmant (55:13) and Hassan Tab'a and Ali Pharon's Renault 17 Giordani (57:25).

Prince Abdullah also came within sight of breaking a 1985 record set by Qatar's Saeed Al Hajri, the reigning Middle East champion, in a special stage near Alouk Thursday night. Hajri had clocked less than 10 minutes in the 12.4-kilometre special stage, which rally officials described as "the toughest and most gruelling" in the Jerash Rally. The Prince covered the distance in 10 minutes one second, some 20 seconds short of Hajri's record.

Laith Naber and Naser Torah were adjudged winners in the Novice Class.

It was a gratifying victory for Prince Abdullah and his co-driver Amer Bilbeisi, who had been rep-

eatedly disappointed in successive rallies after securing honours in the Novice Class in 1983. Much of Thursday's rally was neck-to-neck between the Prince and Nabil Karam, a veteran driver.

Prince Abdullah and Bilbeisi switched places during one special stage of the rally near Zarqa River. Such switching is permitted under the regulations covering the event.

George Khayyat, the 1985 national champion, and co-driver Koith Fary were among the early casualties of the 206-kilometre, seven-special stage event which covered the rough country-side between Amman and the village of Sakhr, north of the ancient ruins of Jerash. So were George Haddad and Fawzi Sawalha, who saw their hopes shattered along with an old time when their Toyota Corolla GT collided with the Nissan 240 RS of Imam Sustani. "We were coming down a steep hillside and taking a curve," Haddad explained. "Suddenly we spotted the Nissan in the middle of the track, and there was no way I could swerve. I hit the Nissan head-on and went ahead, but after a short dis-

tance we had to abandon the race when we discovered that our engine had burned out due to oil leakage."

Bustami's Nissan was stalled in the track after developing a mechanical trouble, according to Bustami. The impact of the collision turned the vehicle over. However, Bustami and his co-driver Nader Majali managed to put it back on track and continue the rally, finishing in last place.

Thursday's event was perhaps the first-ever night rally in the Middle East. Weather and light conditions appeared to favour the organisers and contestants alike, with clear skies and a nearly full moon illuminating the tracks.

The cars were flagged off from the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) at 6:30 Thursday evening to cover a total of 206 kilometres in road sections and special stages. The first car reached the regrouping point in Jerash at about 9:15 p.m. The vehicles that survived the half-way mark of the race began their return journey at 11:00 p.m. and arrived back at the RACJ around 1 a.m. Friday. Results were announced an hour later.

Conspicuous by their absence in the event were two noted Jordanian rally drivers — Suhail Marar and Randa Nabulsi.

Marar, who had taken part in every rallying event in Jordan since 1982 and, most notably, managed to finish all except one in the top seven places, explained that he was looking for a "more

powerful car than the one I used in earlier rallies but could not find one in time."

Nabulsi, the first female Jordanian rally driver, cited similar reasons for missing the season's first race. "I hope to find a suitable car and a willing sponsor for the next event," said Nabulsi, who is a pharmacist.

Wadi Sharawi and Naser Joudi were doing well in their Opel Ascona 400 until the half-way point at Jerash, but the Novice team was forced to abandon the race when their car developed mechanical trouble shortly after beginning the return leg to Amman.

At Jerash, both Sharawi and Joudi said they were in excellent spirits and hoped to make it to the finishing line. "I don't think we can take the honours, but finishing does not seem to be beyond our reach," Joudi had commented. "I believe that being able to finish is a distinction by itself, leave alone winning the race," he said.

Saeed Abdul Hadi and Khaled Al Mufti — Toyota Celica — were disqualified from Thursday's event because they could not produce their timing book at a control point. "We were told that they had lost the book," said a rally official. "Obviously we could not very well allow them to continue the race after that."

Twenty-five drivers took part in the Jerash Rally, the first round of the 1986 National Championship, and only 18 of them could make it to the finishing point. The remaining finishers included Khaled

Dallal and (co-driver) Raed Bilbeisi (Daihatsu Charmant: 57:34), Saleh Tawal and Khader Al Kassir (Mitsubishi ST Turbo: 1 hour: 00:22), Mazen Dajani and Ramzi Bahouth (Renault 17 Giordani: 1:01:52), Nouman Asfour and Mohammad Asfour (Volvo 244 Turbo: 1:03:09), Elias Saba and Issa Barmaki (Opel Manta RS: 1:04:32), Laith Naber and Naser Torah (Volkswagen Polo: 1:05:49), Izzat Assad and Naser Assad (Mini 1275 GT: 1:12:34), Mohammad Wardah and Firas Shnanah (Peugeot 504 GL: 1:16:31), Wahid Nabulsi and Hani Nasser (Land Rover pickup: 1:24:45), Maen Al Hadid and Maher Theh (Mazda 121 L: 1:45:27), Salem Salem and Nihad Rizq (Fiat 130 TC Ritmo) and Imam Bustami and Nader Majali (Nissan 240 RS: 2:00:17).

Prizes for the best drivers and co-drivers in the various classes and grouping were awarded at a ceremony held at the RACJ Friday evening. Walid Asfour, president of the club, distributed the prizes.

The route of the Jerash Rally is also part of the Jordan Rally, a leg of the 1986 Middle East Championship which is scheduled to be held in the fourth week of April. RACJ officials said the Jordan Rally is expected to draw stiff competition among veteran rally aces from the Arab Gulf countries, Lebanon and Cyprus. The British cigarette makers, Rotmans of Palmall, are sponsoring most of the 1986 national championship events as well as the Jordan leg of the Middle East Championship.



His Royal Highness in his winning Opel Manta during the Jerash Rally (Photo by Muneem Fakhoury)

Weather may be chief obstacle for Everton

LONDON (R) — Champions Everton, riding the crest of a wave, look to have more to fear from the weather than visitors Aston Villa in the English First Division Saturday.

Villa have dropped to 20th in the league and will be hard pushed to get even a point from Goodison Park, assuming the games goes ahead.

Meanwhile it emerged Friday that the big freeze which has disrupted the English programme for much of February could backfire on England manager Bobby Robson's World Cup plans.

Robson is due to fly off with his squad for Mexico on May 7, leaving behind only players involved in the Football Association (F.A.) Cup final three days later.

But unless the weather relents soon and a serious fixture backlog is avoided the season could drift

on after May 10. Five clubs can said still to be in the championship race — Everton, Manchester United, Liverpool, West Ham and Chelsea — and between them they are likely to provide eight of the England 22 for Mexico.

Football League spokesman Andy Williamson said Friday: "If clubs are faced with a backlog in May there is nothing to prevent them holding back players in the World Cup party."

An F.A. spokesman said: "We should have to discuss the matter with the league before coming to any decision."

If Everton have their way, and the weather relents, their second title in a row will be wrapped up well before May and Robson will have no worries.

Their brilliant victory over Liverpool last week left no doubt that they are back to their very best and in their present form it is difficult to see who will stop them.

FIFA chief to arrive in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) President Dr. Joao Havelange will arrive in Amman Saturday for a four-day visit as a guest of the Jordan Football Association. The visit is part of the long-standing policy of Dr. Havelange, who has led FIFA for 12 years, to promote and strengthen football in all the nations of the world by meeting personally with national associations in an effort to assess needs and coordinate plans for the development of the sport.

A delegation led by Jordan Football Association President Sulaim M. Al Adwan will welcome Dr. Havelange on Saturday, and the agenda of the four-day visit includes a reception, two banquets, an official meeting with the board of the Jordan Football Association, a sports press conference, and a tour of historical sites in Jordan.



Dr. Joao Havelange

JORDAN NOORCO TRAVEL & TOURISM CO.

Jordan Noorco's Co. invites you to watch Halley's Comet at Vadi Al Rum with an overnight stay in Aqaba.

Price includes transportation with full board service. Date of trip Thursday March 6th, 1986.

For more details please contact 622974 or 637288.

WORK PERMIT LOST

I, Kulwant Singh, have lost my work permit, no. 23416, valid until 14 Aug. 1986. Anyone who finds it is requested to contact tel: 672188, 672393. Finder will receive a reward of JD 10.

FOR RENT

Deluxe furnished flat consisting of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, modern kitchen, store room, terrace and garden, telephone, private entrance, central heating with deluxe furniture.

Location: Fifth Circle, Bader Al Siyab Street, near The Arab Office for Combating Drugs.

Rent to be paid annually

Call: 812440, 814462

BUICK FOR SALE

BUICK Le Sabre, white, fully-automatic with all additions. 1977, very good condition. Customs paid, licensed and insured until 1987. Final price JD 2,100.

Interested buyers only call 843555 ext. 1994

PEGGY MOUNT PETER SALLIS

PETER DENYER • ROBIN KERMODE

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In the comedy-drama

by Ray Cooney & John Chapman

Directed by TED CRAIG

Designed by MICHAEL FRIEDLA

Lighting by ALLAN MILLER BENFORD

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March 12-16, 1986 at the Auditorium Room

Cocktails 6:30pm, Dinner 7:30pm, Theatre (seats) 9:30pm

Tickets at JD 15.00 (Tax and service charge included)

For all reservations please call 6384258 Ext. 2341

FLAT FOR RENT

Consists of three bedrooms, sitting room, dining room, two verandas, kitchen and three bathrooms. Also garage, garden, telephone and separate central heating.

For more information please call 818445.

Jabal Amman, Sixth Circle, Al Sweifieh, after the church.

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jordan Valley Authority announces the availability of Tender Documents for the supply, delivery, and installation of computer hardware and related operating software. Local and foreign interested companies are requested to obtain tender documents from:

Jordan Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2769
Amman - Jordan.

Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Beethoven Allee 21
5300 Bonn 2

For a non-refundable fee of Jordanian Dinar 80 or equivalent per copy.

Latest date for submission of tender bids in Amman/Jordan is 12 noon, date 20/April/1986.

Dr. Eng. Munther Haddadin
President
JVA.

AMRA HOTEL

Proudly announces the opening of the Amra Business Center, as an additional service that will be made available for our guests and the public.

Amra Business Center will be glad to provide you with the following services:

1. Translation to and from Arabic, English and French
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For further information please contact our Business Secretary

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Deluxe Furnished Apartment For Rent

Ground floor unit consisting of two bedrooms, salon, central heating, telephone.

Location: Near Holiday Inn Hotel
Pls. call 664636 Amman

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TRAFFEN SICH AM MONTAG 3.3.1986 10-12 uhr in Hotel Amra (roof top).

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

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Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight

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CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

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Authentic Chinese food
Friendly service
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Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

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AQABA

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Two bedrooms, salon, glassed-in-veranda, kitchen, bath. Complete electrical appliances, central heating, local telephone.

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Consisting of three bedrooms, salon, sitting room, two bathrooms, complete new furniture (unused), central heating.

Location: Yarmouk Housing Estate, opposite University of Jordan.

Tel. 604259, from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon and from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

SEMI-VILLA FOR RENT (Furnished or unfurnished)

Consisting of two bedrooms, dining room, guest room, sitting room, veranda, two bathrooms, large kitchen, separate garden, garage, telephone, central heating.

Location: Western Shmeisani, 800 metres west of Ambassador Hotel, Abdul Haseem Nimer Street, Home no. 5306

Annual rent (furnished) JD 3,000; (semi-furnished) JD 2,800; (unfurnished) JD 2,500.

Pls. call 665711 from 8-11 a.m. and from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Consists of two bedrooms, one salon, one dining room, one bathroom - plus kitchen with central heating, telephone and garage.

Location: Shmeisani, near Birds Garden.

Please call: 602064 or 644483

<p>Cinema CONCORD</p> <p>Tel: 677420</p> <p>DOCTOR DETROIT (Colour)</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema RAINBOW</p> <p>Tel: 625155</p> <p>LIVE GUEST II (Colour)</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30</p>	<p>Cine-Theatre Philadelphia</p> <p>Tel: 634144 - 634149</p> <p>SILVERADO (Colour)</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15</p>	<p>Cinema RAGHADAN</p> <p>Tel: 622198</p> <p>FINAL MISSION DO CHEHERE (Colour)</p> <p>Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00</p>	<p>Cinema OPERA</p> <p>Abdali, behind Villa Williams</p> <p>Tel: 675573</p> <p>THE LOST EMPIRE (Colour)</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30</p>
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4648/58	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4262/72	Canadian dollars
	2.2185/95	West German marks
	2.5055/70	Dutch guilders
	1.8710/25	Swiss francs
	45.3540	Belgian francs
	6.8225/75	French francs
	1511/1512	Italian lire
	179.70/90	Japanese yen
	7.1500/1600	Swedish crowns
	7.0000/0100	Norwegian crowns
	8.1950/2050	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	338.00/338.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market was lower on balance with the recent advance attracting profit-taking but several issues were above lows at the close, dealers said. At 1530 FTSE 100 share index was down 6.2 at 1,543 after a high of 1,553.5.

ICI touched a low of 914 after press comment on its results on Thursday but recovered to show a 10p gain at 927 helped by U.S. demand, dealers added. Lloyds Bank was 8p up at 492 having touched 499 after results for 1985 much in line with market expectations. Other banks eased.

Government bonds showed net gains of up to half a point. North American stocks firmed and golds were mixed.

Hanson Trust eased a penny at 162. It said it has arranged a £1 billion loan to support its bid for Imperial Group which was 6p up at 322. But rose 3p to 361 having sold its 29.9 per cent stake in Mullins.

W. Berisford rose 9p to 202 on renewed demand after Hillendons Holdings said it bought a 5.95 per cent stake in the company, fueling speculation of a counter to Ferruzzi's bid.

McQuibb added 22p to 203 on speculative demand while Reed was a net 9p up at 811 after news it is selling its Dutch unit, NVK Sphinx to Algemeine Bank. Home Charm was 7p up at 354 after news of a bid approach.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime can find you with a real ability to find out whatever has been obscure or mysterious to you, so probe into all phases of information to gain your answers.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have every opportunity to garner the data you need that can be utilized in business so that you can command greater abundance.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Use tact in handling business partners who may have quite a different attitude today. Handle public affairs efficiently.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can make your surroundings more efficient running and attractive now with relative ease.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan the recreations you want to indulge in early, but avoid a partner whose sense of humor is almost nil.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get busy and make your home more charming and be sure the plumbing is working properly. Tonight, avoid a family scuffle.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Communicating intelligently with others can prove most advantageous today. Make sure you drive carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You understand just how to make your possessions more valuable, so get busy early on this. Plan a workable budget.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Personal wishes can easily be gained now because you feel and look charming. Steer clear of one who depresses you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be cagey when seeing an expert and get the right information you need. Spend spare time with one who charms you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) An expert can advise you how to have the best time at little expense. Gain your secret desires, also.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) It's a good day to find out exactly what your position is with bigwigs who can give you a chance to show your ability.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be wide awake to new ways and means through which you can advance more quickly in your career.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be a born investigator and will also be interested in the motives behind others' actions, so be sure to give as thorough an education as possible. Add psychology to the curriculum, as well.

Yugoslavia gets cheaper oil from Arabs, Soviets

BEIGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia has secured a reduction of \$6 a barrel in the price of its imported crude oil after negotiations with the Soviet Union, Iraq, Libya and other main suppliers, the government news agency Tanjug said Thursday.

It quoted Energy and Industry Minister Rade Pavlovic as telling the federal parliament that the new price would mean a reduction of \$450 million in the country's annual oil bill, which normally amounts to between \$3 and \$3.5 billion.

Yugoslavia plans to import 10.8 million tonnes of crude this year to help cover total oil needs of 15 million tonnes.

Mr. Pavlovic gave no new price per barrel. But earlier this month, Foreign Trade Minister Milenko Bojanic said Yugoslavia was buying Soviet oil at around \$27 a barrel.

This is sharply above what world markets are now ready to pay for oil from the Soviet Union. Spot traders say a fair price for its Urals grade would be about \$16.

Mr. Pavlovic was quoted as saying that a further decline in the price could be expected from Yugoslavia's main suppliers in the near future.

Yugoslavia buys oil from the Soviet Union and Arab suppliers on a barter basis involving Yugoslav commodities, construction works and manpower. But Mr. Pavlovic said Yugoslav planners would look at the future possibility of buying some oil for cash on the world market.

Record production and stocks and reduced export outlets are causing concern in Malaysia and an official body has been set up to find ways to stop the downward price spiral.

Malaysian plantations were heavy sellers of crude palm oil and this triggered a fresh wave of refiner product selling in the London market, the brokers said.

April shipments of palm olein — used in soap and industrial lubricants — and refined bleached deodorized palm oil — used in margarine and chocolate and also

as a cooking oil — were offered here at \$245 and \$230 per tonne respectively. This was \$15 below Wednesday's trades and compared with about \$530 a tonne a year ago.

Traders said Malaysia had been considering converting surplus palm into diesel fuel but the recent fall in world oil prices did not make this viable.

They said local banks were reported to have told some plantations to reduce their holdings of crude palm, and this could have been behind Thursday's heavy selling.

India, a major importer of Malaysian palm oil, has watched prices fall this year without ordering significant supplies. Traders said it wanted to barter goods for the oil, which was complicating business.

Stockbrokers said Mr. Palme's government had apparently yielded to pressure from trade unions and the small communist party, on which its parliamentary majority depends.

The move took the Stockholm market by surprise as Prime Minister Olof Palme and other ministers had given repeated assurances that the tax would not be raised.

Share prices plummeted and 16.8 billion crowns (\$2.4 billion) was wiped off the total value of the Stockholm bourse in droves.

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Washington would welcome further dollar decline, trade secretary says

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige says the Reagan administration would welcome a further drop in the dollar to reduce America's huge trade deficit.

"The administration would not be unhappy to see the dollar drop further as long as it was gradual and the result of market forces," Mr. Baldrige said in an interview with Reuters.

His comments came after a week in which the dollar has lost heavily against most other currencies in hectic trading that has pushed it to a four-year low against the mark.

The trade deficit hit \$148 billion in 1985 and few experts think it will shrink much in the next few months.

The commerce secretary said he was not worried by a resurgence in inflation, differing on this point with Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the politically-independent central bank, the Federal Reserve Board (Fed).

"Volcker has done an outstanding job ... the only disagreement I have with him is in this one area of the dollar," Mr. Baldrige said.

Top administration officials and the central bank chief have baffled financial markets with recent statements that suggested a rift over exchange-rate policy.

Mr. Volcker said last week the dollar has fallen enough while Treasury Secretary James Baker and Mr. Baldrige said further declines would be welcomed.

The reason was that foreign producers have invested heavily to gain a foothold in the U.S. market and have incentives not to raise prices drastically, Mr. Baldrige said.

The lower dollar makes American goods more competitive in foreign markets as imports become more expensive here.

"I don't think the economists put enough stress on what foreign business will do to counter the higher currency factors," he said.

To retain their market shares here, German, Japanese, and other producers will absorb some of the exchange-rate losses and give up some profits, he said.

"The rise in import prices will come, but it will be tempered for quite a while by foreign businessmen seeking to keep their market share," Mr. Baldrige said.

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But the Fed chairman said later he did not disagree substantially with Mr. Baker, causing the dollar to plunge as traders interpreted his remarks to mean his opposition to administration policy was softening.

He added, however, "we'd all like to see interest rates lower ... one factor on the other side is the dollar," a remark that many traders saw as signalling that interest-rate declines would be unlikely while the dollar was weak.

Mr. Volcker fears that a free-falling dollar would lead to dangerous inflation, which has kept the U.S. central bank from pursuing lower interest rates.

Mr. Baldrige, however, played down the threat of inflation. "You won't see inflation go up dramatically," he said.

The reason was that foreign producers have invested heavily to gain a foothold in the U.S. market and have incentives not to raise prices drastically, Mr. Baldrige said.

The lower dollar makes American goods more competitive in foreign markets as imports become more expensive here.

"I don't think the economists put enough stress on what foreign business will do to counter the higher currency factors," he said.

To retain their market shares here, German, Japanese, and other producers will absorb some of the exchange-rate losses and give up some profits, he said.

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Spain plans to liberalise economy

MADRID (R) — Spanish Finance Minister Carlos Solchaga Thursday unveiled plans to lift a ban on foreign investment in treasury bills and said the government intended to liberalise legislation on investment from abroad.

The measures were part of a package aimed at stimulating economic growth. These included promotion of exports, a five to 15 per cent cut in the price of gasoline and other oil products, and corporate tax breaks.

Mr. Solchaga said he would submit a bill to parliament seeking authorisation for a secondary stock market to let medium size companies list their shares on the Madrid bourse.

The government relies on treasury bills to help finance the state budget deficit, which Mr. Solchaga said rose last year to 1,489 billion pesetas (\$10.6 billion) from 1,339 billion pesetas (\$9.5 billion) in 1984.

Turkey stops importing electricity

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has stopped importing electricity because it can now produce enough to cover its needs, Energy Minister Cemal Buyukbas said Thursday.

New domestic capacity since a 1986 economic plan was drawn up envisaging 2,400 gigawatt-hours (GWH) of power to be bought from the Soviet Union and Bulgaria had obviated the need for imports, he told Reuters.

Imports at the same level last year accounted for 6.6 per cent of Turkey's electricity needs.

S. Africa tells U.K. to stop interfering

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The South African government has told Britain to stop interfering in its affairs and lambasted Britain's ambassador for expressing concern about recent protests in a black township.

Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange called British Ambassador Sir Patrick Moberly's conduct "astonishing," according to state-run South African Radio.

Speaking at a ceremony in Pretoria Thursday night, Mr. Le Grange said South Africa did not interfere in Britain's internal affairs and could therefore with justice expect Britain not to do so in South Africa.

A spokesman for Mr. Le Grange said he had no transcript of the minister's remarks which had not been prepared.

Moberly issued a statement on Tuesday telling South Africa of Britain's concern over detentions without trial, clashes between police and protesters and allegations that some black prisoners had been tortured.

He drew the South African government's attention to "serious disquiet" in Britain about recent protests in Alexandra township near Johannesburg when at least 19 people were killed.

Mr. Le Grange said Britain appeared to have conveniently

forgotten about protests in the London suburb of Brixton last year.

A South African policeman was seriously injured after 800 blacks ransacked a workers' hostel at a power station overnight, police said Friday.

A police spokesman said the mob of black workers at the Kriel Power Station, about 150 kilometres south east of Johannesburg, looted and badly damaged a hostel on the site.

A group of about 30 workers later attacked a police vehicle with stones. One policeman was seriously injured when a rock hit him on the head, the spokesman said.

In Kagiso township west of Johannesburg barricades went up on the streets and police vehicles were stoned. One man was wounded when police fired on their attackers, the police said.

The police also reported protests in townships around the country.

More than 1,130 people have died in South Africa over the last two years in violent protests at

apartheid race laws.

Meanwhile a Commonwealth team trying to promote peaceful change in South Africa was expected to meet leaders of the anti-apartheid African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group Friday, Lusaka officials said.

The ANC, the main group fighting white rule in South Africa, has its headquarters in the Zambian capital, Lusaka. Its president, Oliver Tambo, has just returned from a visit to Europe.

The last member of the seven-strong group of "eminent persons," former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, was arriving Friday.

Five of the group, accompanied by Commonwealth Secretary-General Sir Shridath Ramphal, were received by Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda Thursday.

They are former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, Canadian Anglican primate Archbishop Edward Scott, World Council of Churches President Dame Nita Barrow, former Tanzanian Foreign Minister John Malecela and former British Finance Minister Anthony Barber.

The seventh member is former Indian Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh who arrived Thursday.

Haiti to seek extradition of Duvalier

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Haiti's new government has announced it would press for the extradition of Jean-Claude Duvalier, the fallen dictator who left here on Feb. 7 for exile.

A government communique read over television by Justice Minister Gerard Gourgue said Duvalier would "soon be the subject of an extradition request."

The communique added that the five-man government council that has been running Haiti since the departure of Duvalier, would also seek the extradition of former police chief Albert Peire from exile in Brazil.

The statement, issued after two days of violence and looting, responded to growing public pressure for action against leaders and officials of the Duvalier dictatorship.

The announcement to have Duvalier returned to Haiti appeared to be a reversal of policy by the five-man civilian-military council formed after his departure at the end of 28 years of dictatorial rule by the Duvalier family.

According to diplomats, the council showed no inclination in its first two weeks to press action against Duvalier, known as "Baby Doc," and his aides.

Duvalier remains in France. The French government, which offered him temporary haven when he fled Haiti, has been unable to find another country willing to take him in.

The statement said Haitians suspected of crimes committed during the dictatorship would be banned from leaving. "They will be stopped at the airport and arrested," it said.

On Sunday, the government allowed Pierre — who won a reputation for brutality in three years as police chief — to leave Haiti for exile in Brazil.

But the attempt to let Desir go led to scenes of violence at the international airport, with troops firing into the air and using tear gas against several hundred people who had converged on the terminal to prevent his departure.

Foreign residents said public anger over the government's apparent leniency towards Duvalier aides contributed to a spate of violence and looting of houses belonging to officials of the former administration, including the villa of Desir.

The communique said the state would seize the property of people "denounced by public clamour," an apparent reference to Duvalier's secret police and militia, the Tontons Macoute.

Another move to diffuse mounting public criticism of the government, the council announced reductions in the price of sugar, flour and petrol and reiterated that it was laying the groundwork for a return to democracy here.

The statement said there would be general elections after a newly formed constituent assembly had drafted a constitution and electoral laws. No timetable was given.

Enraged mobs lynched two members of Haiti's now disbanded Tontons Macoute after they were said to have poisoned a water reservoir in a northern Haitian town, police said Thursday.

Indian train runs over crowd, 27 die

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 27 people were crushed to death Friday when an express train hurtled into a crowd gathered on a southern Indian railway track to watch a pre-dawn religious fireworks festival, police said.

The crowds were on a curve of the line and the train driver did not see them until it was too late to stop, a police spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Trivandrum, capital of southern Kerala state.

Several hundred people had rushed onto the track for a good view of the fireworks display at a Hindu temple. It was still dark when the train, heading towards

the port of Cochin, plunged through the crowd, the spokesman said.

"Normally people would have seen the train light, but they were all staring in the opposite direction and there was a lot of light anyway from the fireworks," he added.

"There was so much noise from the fireworks that they didn't have a chance of hearing the train coming. It was travelling at high speed and people couldn't get off the track in time."

First reports from the small town of Tellicherry put the death toll at 31 but police later revised the figure down to 27.

"There was a lot of confusion

straight after the accident, hundreds of people were running all over the place in the dark," the spokesman said.

He said most of about 100 people rushed to the nearest hospital on another train were later released after being treated for cuts and bruises but eight were seriously hurt.

The disaster put a macabre end to celebrations at the temple, dedicated to Jagannath, the armless and legless God who in parts of the country is paraded on a huge wheeled chariot, which inspired the creation of the word "juggernaut" to describe outsize vehicles.

Greek oil depot fire spreads to 12 tanks

SALONIKA, Greece (R) — A fire raging through an oil depot near this northern Greek city spread early Friday to seven more oil tanks, bringing to 12 the number affected by the blaze, sources at the Ministry for Northern Greece said.

Six firemen fighting the blaze were injured by an explosion early Friday and state radio said another explosion could take place soon. The radio said there was no danger to human life from the blaze or the expected explosion.

They said efforts were now underway to protect a tank containing 50,000 tonnes of fuel oil, the only part of the depot which has so far been unaffected.

The blaze began on Monday and spread over the next 24 hours to five tanks containing some 30,000 tonnes of fuel oil and crude oil.

The sources said it was not clear how much oil had caught fire Friday but they added that some of the tanks where the blaze had spread were empty. Six of the tanks at the depot have been destroyed completely, they said.

The total capacity of the depot,

which belongs to the Greek company Jet Oil, is more than 170,000 tonnes.

Alternate Defence Minister Antonis Drososyannis, Police Minister Athanasios Tsouras and a top Energy Ministry official went to the scene of the fire early Friday to help coordinate fire-fighting efforts by police, firemen and soldiers.

Nearby oil depots belonging to Greece's two state refineries and another tank containing liquid ammonia were drained last Tuesday as a precautionary measure.

Control of French army provokes row

PARIS (R) — Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac has sparked a row by challenging President Francois Mitterrand's right to deploy French troops abroad if the opposition wins the March 16 general election.

Mr. Chirac, in a television interview on Wednesday, said it would be for a future rightwing prime minister, not the president, to decide whether to send troops to an African trouble spot such as Chad.

"It's obviously the prime minister who decides because he is at the head of the administration and he can deploy the necessary means," Mr. Chirac said.

Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, speaking Thursday night in the Paris suburb of Epinay, denounced the Gaullist leader's statement as likely to "sow disorder in the French Armed Forces."

"It is the president of the republic who is commander in chief of the armed forces. He is the one who decides on the intervention of the French army in any territory whatever after informing the prime minister," Mr. Fabius said.

The thrust of Mr. Chirac's argument on Wednesday was that the prime minister, not the president, would henceforth play the key role in foreign and defence matters.

His only qualification was that the head of state would still be the one to control the trigger of France's nuclear deterrent.

The RPR leader is the opposition's leading candidate for the premiership if the right wins an absolute majority in two weeks' time in the voting for the National Assembly.

Mr. Fabius, Mr. Mitterrand's close political protégé, was clearly

speaking with the president's backing Monday night in challenging Mr. Chirac's claim to take over what has traditionally been the prerogatives of the head of state.

Mr. Fabius, speaking in the draughty suburban gymnasium where Mr. Mitterrand was named to lead the revitalised Socialist Party in 1971, denounced Mr. Chirac for "forgetting we are in the Fifth Republic" — a reference to the Gaullist constitution and its wide presidential powers.

"What regime does he think we are living under?" Mr. Fabius asked, condemning Mr. Chirac for stating that the right would impose a series of conditions before agreeing to form a government under Mr. Mitterrand.

"It is nobody's task to impose conditions on the president of the French Republic," Mr. Fabius said.

Mahathir's deputy resigns, party split

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia's main Malay political party was holding emergency talks Friday night in a bid to mend a rift sparked by the shock resignation of Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam, political sources said.

Mr. Musa resigned unexpectedly over policy and personality clashes with supporters of Prime Minister Tan Sri Mahathir Muhammad, the sources said.

The rift in the ranks of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) was the most serious

since bloody racial riots wracked Malaysia in 1969, they added.

Diplomats said Mr. Musa's motive for the move was unclear, but suggested it could be the first step in a long-awaited bid to oust Mr. Mahathir.

Mr. Mahathir has not publicly confirmed the resignation while Mr. Musa left on Wednesday night for a pilgrimage to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia after declining to comment on his political exit.

His resignation led to a drop in local share prices.

Party leaders, including supporters of the two leaders, have been conferring separately to thrash out positions ahead of Friday night's meeting of UMNO's supreme council, party sources said.

Political and diplomatic sources said the session may patch up differences to preserve UMNO unity ahead of general elections due by April 1987 and generally expected sooner.

They warned however that the split may not heal completely.

Colombo threatens more air raids on Tamils

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government, under new pressure from India to find a political solution to its ethnic crisis, Friday warned of more air attacks on Tamil guerrilla bases after three people died in an air raid Thursday.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told Reuters a guerrilla leader was killed when air force planes and helicopters

attacked what he called terrorist hideouts about six kilometres from Jaffna, the small capital city of northern province.

He said he had no other details of casualties but residents said at least three Tamil civilians, including a 50-year-old Hindu priest, were killed and five wounded in the air raid, the second in a week.

A National Security Ministry

statement said there were about 30 guerrilla bases in the Jaffna area and warned people not to gather near them.

"The security forces will launch further strikes in the near future," the statement said, adding that Thursday's operation was a pre-emptive strike to counter plans by guerrillas for a major offensive from their northern bases.

Italian prosecutor asks court to free Bulgarians

ROME (R) — An Italian prosecutor, summing up in a nine-month trial which once threatened to worsen East-West relations, said there was insufficient proof to convict three Bulgarians of joining a plot to assassinate Pope John Paul in 1981.

Prosecutor Antonio Marini said he was reluctantly forced to ask the Rome Assize Court to acquit the three East European defendants despite indications they might have been connected with a gun attempt on the Polish-born Pontiff's life.

"Not all the doubts have been

dispelled," Mr. Marini said Thursday in the concluding phase of what Italian newspapers called the trial of the century because of its implications for East-West politics.

The prosecutor's remarks brought an immediate reaction from Bulgaria which rejected his recommendation. It called on the court to find them innocent.

The official Bulgarian News Agency BTA said the men had been groundlessly accused and there had never been any Bulgarian involvement in the assassination attempt.

Republican presidential hopefuls vie for attention

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (R) — Republican leaders assembled for a party conference in this country-music capital Friday, with a host of potential 1988 presidential candidates on hand to vie for their attention.

The two-day session of about 2,000 Republicans from 13 southern states was intended to assess prospects for President Reagan's political colleagues in mid-term elections next Nov. 4, which will decide control of Congress and many state governorships.

To the chagrin of some of the visiting Republicans, however, the conclude has turned into an unusually early preview of the campaign to succeed Mr. Reagan as the party's next presidential nominee — two years before the presidential primary elections begin in late February 1988.

"People just aren't focused on the 1988 race yet," says Jeanie Austin, chairman of the Florida Republican Party, in a comment typical of the grumblers.

Nonetheless, the affair had all the trappings of a typical U.S. presidential campaign "cattle show," as the mass candidate appearances are called, with appearances scheduled by Vice President George Bush, former Senate majority leader

der Howard Baker of Tennessee, New York representative Jack Kemp, current Senate majority leader Robert Dole of Kansas, television evangelist Pat Robertson, former Delaware Governor Pierre Du Pont and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Although none of these men have formally declared themselves candidates, all are testing the waters.

Baker grabbed the early spotlight Thursday by announcing at a news conference the formation of the first exploratory Presidential Campaign Committee.

Although Mr. Reagan's term in the White House has nearly three years remaining, a Baker aide said it was necessary to act now "to end all the speculation about whether Baker is serious" about seeking the presidency.

An unsuccessful candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1980, Baker gave up his Senate seat last year in order to devote his full energies to seeking the White House.

He has been relatively inactive until now. By contrast both Bush and Kemp are planning more than 150 appearances across the country this year.

Shuttle decision process said to be flawed

WASHINGTON (R) — A presidential commission investigating the Challenger space shuttle disaster has concluded that the way NASA reaches decisions to launch is fatally flawed.

After three days of public hearings into what went wrong with the Jan. 28 launch in which seven crew members died in an explosion, panel Chairman William Rogers Thursday summed up with a flat statement: "The process is flawed."

The former secretary of state and others on the 13-member panel grew notably exasperated with the detailed explanations from key NASA officials about why they failed to heed warnings from two major contractors to delay the launch because of the unusually cold weather at the Florida launch site.

Mr. Rogers rebuked various members of the NASA shuttle management team for lacking common sense, of bureaucratic paper shuffling, for failing to find out crucial information, for bottling up dissent within the lower ranks by not passing along important worries about the launch to the top echelon of the agency and for hearing only what they wanted to hear.

"It's very difficult for the commission to understand," he said of the panel that includes one Nobel Prize winner, two former astronauts, statesmen and scientific experts.

Rebuking the management of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Mr. Rogers commented: "It seems to me that if you are going to have a decision-making process, the key people should know clearly what's going on."

Mr. Rogers made it clear that the commission, which is to complete its report to President Reagan in three months, would not advise an end to manned space flight, urging instead that NASA executives find better ways of communicating problems.

Morton Thiokol, builder of the shuttle's rocket boosters, and Rockwell International, which built the shuttle itself, told the commission they had both raised red flags to NASA about the launch because of frigid temperatures.

Thiokol engineers worried the freeze might make O-ring seals on its rockets become inflexible and let gases escape, which is the top of the list of suspects in the probe.

Rockwell officials said they were concerned that icicles on the launch pad, some as long as 1.2 metres, might hit the fragile thermal protection shields on the craft and pose a safety problem when it re-entered the earth's atmosphere.

A lone NASA scientist came forward to testify that he had agreed with Thiokol's objection. Ben Powers, a 20-year NASA employee, said he was the only NASA official to back Thiokol at a meeting on the eve of the launch.

After the meeting, Thiokol managers brushed aside the engineers' concerns and went along with the launch under what some said they interpreted as pressure from NASA.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—Recently, we played with someone who told us that it was accepted practice, if partner made a jump shift, to raise his suit with a singleton ace, king or queen. I can't find anything about that in the books. Can you tell if this is really so? C.C., San Francisco, Calif.

A.—To answer your question, I first have to explain what constitutes a jump shift in modern theory.

Jump shifts are made on one of only two types of hands:

1. Hands with a self-sustaining suit that can play even opposite a void in partner's hand.

2. Hands with a strong fit for opener's suit.

No matter which of these two types of hand the jump shifter holds, it is perfectly safe to raise his suit with as little as a singleton high honor. If he has the first type, it is important for him to know that his suit has been solidified. If he has the latter type, after you have raised he will correct to your suit.

Nut everyone believes that you should raise with a singleton honor. Many still feel that opener should simply bid his hand naturally. They feel that it is easier to place the final contract if at least one of the hands has painted a picture of its shape.

Q.—From time to time in your bid-

ding quiz, you mention that a rebid of a suit shows six cards in that suit. I can understand why that might hold true if you play five-card majors, but what about six-card, four-card or five-card majors? R.S., Ft. Worth, Texas.

A.—It really has little to do with whether you play four- or five-card majors. The logic of bridge in situations where partner's response has consumed little bidding room. The simplest case to follow is where the bidding has gone:

South North
1 ♠ 1 NT
2 ♠

South's spade rebid does not promise extra values. However, he must have an unbalanced hand, otherwise he would have passed one no trump. That rules out a 5-3-3-2 pattern. You also can rule out all 5-4-3-1 or 5-4-2-2 patterns, with those shapes, partner would have bid his second suit. Thus, by a process of elimination we have reached the unmistakable conclusion that opener must have a six-card suit.

The more space responder consumes, the less likely is it that the rebid promises six cards. Thus, if North responds to one spade with two diamonds or two hearts, a two spade rebid could very easily be made with a five-card suit.

COLUMN

Chinese girls school to give love lessons

HONG KONG (R) — China has opened a school to teach unmarried girls about love. Hong Kong's Wen Wei Po newspaper said Friday 170 girls aged 17 to 30 began studying love, marriage and family ethics at the first school in the southern city of Canton.

They can choose from seven courses including "how to be a new woman of the eighties," "dangers of premarital sex" and "how to choose a lover." China's Canton Evening News said the city also had schools to teach women how to be future mothers, daughters-in-law or mothers-in-law.

Student hanged for killing friend

DHAKA (R) — A 16-year-old student convicted of drowning his classmate to avenge defeat in a school test has been hanged at Dhaka Central Jail, police said Friday. They said Mohammad Selim was executed Thursday night after being sentenced to death by a Bangladesh military court for killing his friend at a pool a year ago. They gave no details. Another military court in Dhaka ordered a young man to die for murdering a neighbor's son last May to settle a family score.

Wives of officials can report cheating husbands

JAKARTA (R) — A provincial official has opened a special letter box for wives of local civil servants who want to point an accusing finger at unfaithful husbands. The district head of the West Java provincial capital of Bandung, Cherman Efendi, announced the new policy before an assembly of village chiefs on Wednesday, the daily Sinar Pagi reported Friday. He told the chiefs he had been hearing too many reports that village officials were "fooling around" and he was providing a special mail box for wronged wives to report their husbands to him.

North Sea freezes at Belgian resort

BRUSSELS (R) — The North Sea has started to freeze at Belgium's best known coastal resort, Ostend, as temperatures plunged to 11 degrees below zero. Coastguards said ice began to form along the coast as temperatures dropped in bad weather. The National Meteorological office said Belgium was having its coldest February on record.

And now...a clock that tells how you'll feel in 50 years

TOKYO (R) — Wondering whether you'll be in good form for that big meeting next week? Or how you'll be feeling on a particular day in, say, 2036? A Japanese company offers an answer with its latest gadget, a clock that can tell at one touch the state of your mind and body on any day from 1901 to 2099 regardless of your lifespan. From next month, for 12,000 yen (\$65), Seiko will sell a new traveler-size alarm clock programmed to show biometrics, the physiological, emotional and intellectual cycles supposed to cause variations in mood or performance. Based on a Berlin University biometric theory, the "Next-Time Biobhythm" clock will display a graph of your condition on a given day when you push in your birthdate, a Seiko spokesman said. Theoretically, you could also find out if Einstein was feeling particularly clever the day he thought of E-MC squared (his theory of relativity).

Court bars sale of nude photos of Fabius' wife

PARIS (R) — A French court has barred sales of a right-wing weekly magazine carrying nude photographs of the wife of Prime Minister Laurent Fabius. Legal sources said a court in Nanterre, west of Paris, ruled that the periodical, *Manteau*, must withdraw all copies of the issue due to go on sale. Mr. Fabius ordered lawyer Mario Saut to take action against the weekly on the grounds that publication of pictures of his 39-year-old wife, Françoise, was a breach of privacy. A spokesman for Mr. Saut said the publication of the photographs, taken at a swimming pool during a family holiday, was "politically motivated."